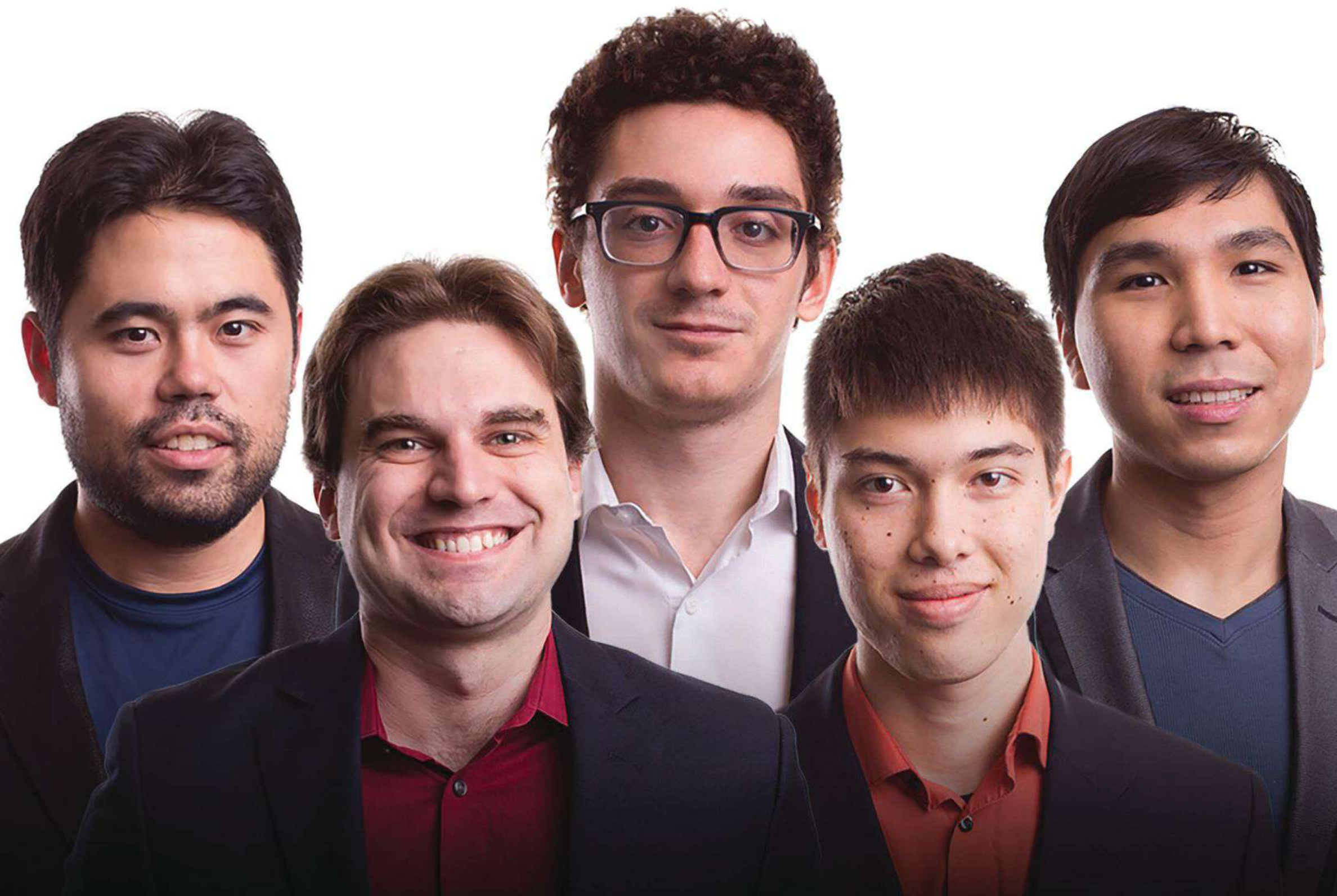


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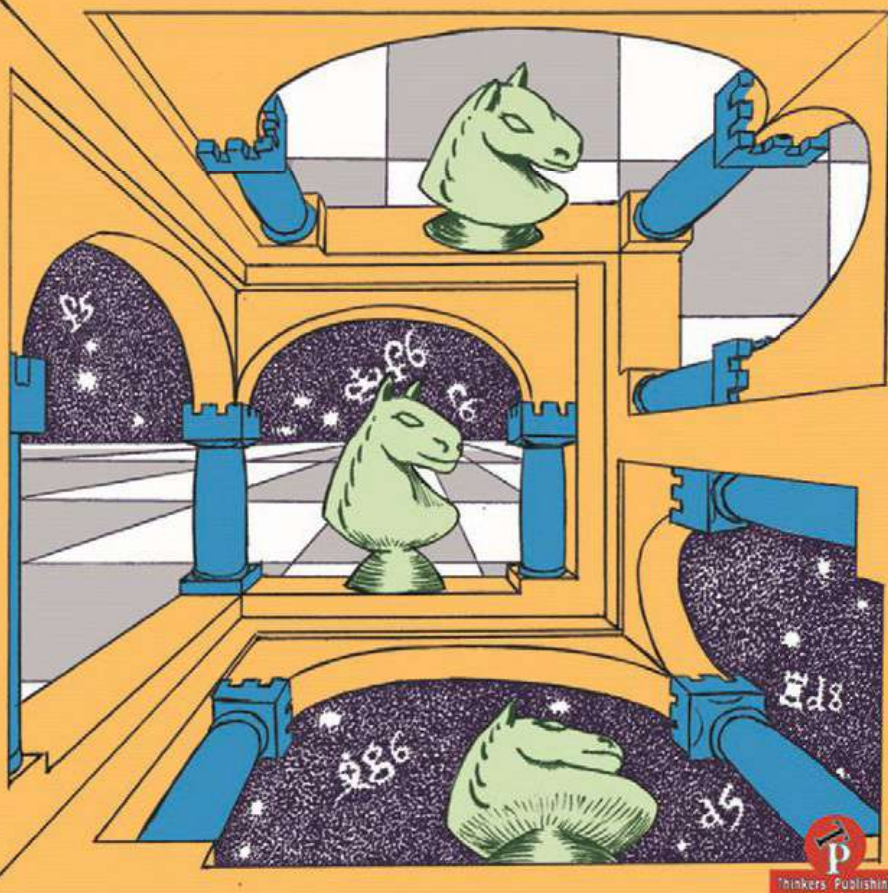
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Alexander Ipatov ca. 275 pages - ca. \$31.95 - publication date **01.2019**

Unconventional Approaches to Modern Chess

Alexander Ipatov

Vol.1 Rare Ideas for Black



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ON THE COVER

The powerhouse gold-medal team from the 2016 Olympiad was tapped again in 2018. GMs Fabiano Caruana, Wesley So, Hikaru Nakamura, Sam Shankland, and Ray Robson returned to the Olympiad seeking a repeat performance, but fell short of gold on tiebreaks.

COVER PHOTOS: AUSTIN FULLER, COURTESY OF SAINT LOUIS CHESS CLUB

OLYMPIAD MEDALS

GM Fabiano Caruana helped the U.S. team win silver in the 43rd Chess Olympiad, held in Batumi, Georgia, capturing individual silver along the way.

PHOTO: DAVID LLADA



24 COVER STORY / 43rd CHESS OLYMPIAD

On the Shores of Batumi

BY GM MAURICE ASHLEY

China nabs historic double gold at the 43rd Chess Olympiad, while the U.S. team takes silver on tiebreaks and the women's team makes a splash.

38 HISTORY / COLLINS MANUSCRIPTS

What We Leave Behind

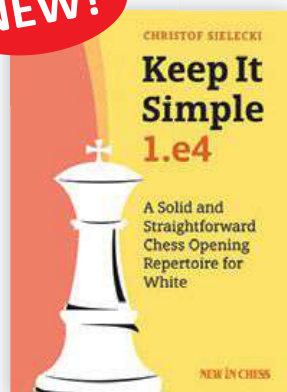
BY JOSHUA ANDERSON

The Collins manuscripts at Indiana University give us a glimpse into John "Jack" Collins extraordinary life and chess career.



US CHESS TURNS 80 THIS DECEMBER and *Chess Life* is turning this milestone birthday into a year-long celebration. Throughout the year, look for fun facts on our infographics page as well as features and tidbits that revisit our organization's rich history. Want to join in the fun? Send your best memories, stories, and photos to letters@uschess.org. Your story may appear in our December issue!

NEW!



Keep it Simple: 1.e4

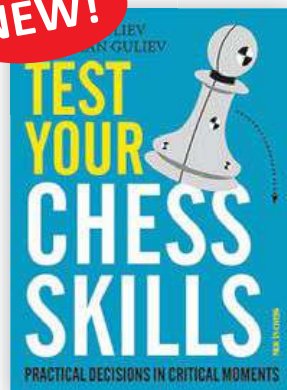
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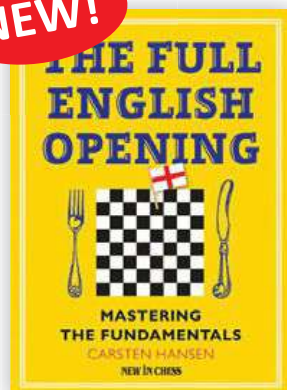
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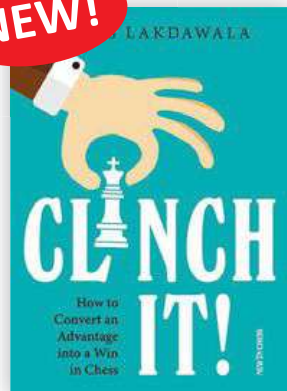
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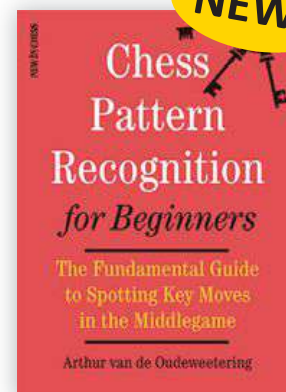
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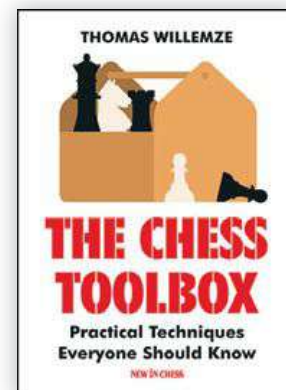
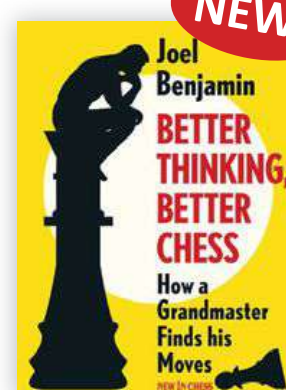
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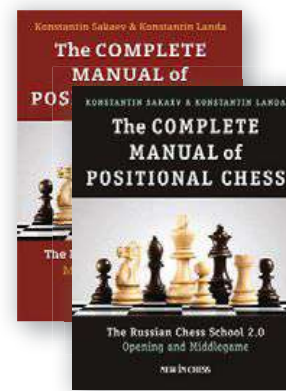
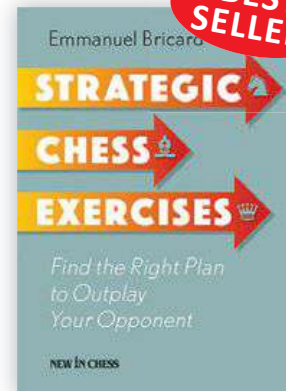
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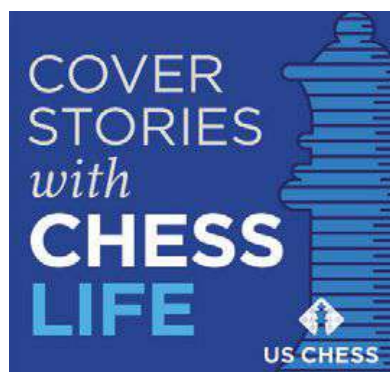


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CHESS LIFE ONLINE

JANUARY PREVIEW



LADIES KNIGHT PREMIERS

Don't miss the premiere of Jennifer Shahade's new monthly podcast, "Ladies Knight." Jennifer will interview chess champions and other women leaders in our industry to further the goal of increasing female growth and retention. The podcast music is by chess player and musician Juga, who wrote the sensational song, "Oh Capablanca," and whose interweaving passions for chess and music were featured on the BBC and in *The Guardian* during the Carlsen-Caruaena World Championship match.

GOLDEN YOUTH

Look for articles from GM Mesgen Amanov and IM Kostya Kavutskiy on the journeys of our top young players at the World Youth and World Cadet, sponsored this year by Two Sigma. Mesgen wrote the top *CLO* article last year on his piece, "Path to the Podium," showing how his students ended up coming home with hardware. This year Mesgen gives insights into the success of Under 8 Champion Raj Chennareddy, who was also his student, and who worked with Kostya in Santiago, Spain. *Photo, third from left, by Grant Oen*

LISTEN TO OUR OTHER PODCASTS, TOO!

In the January edition of Cover Stories, available on the first Tuesday of every month, Senior Director of Strategic Communication Dan Lucas interviews GM Maurice Ashley about his cover story on the 2018 Olympiad in Batumi, Georgia. Senior Digital Editor Jennifer Shahade also discusses what is coming up in *Chess Life Online* at uschess.org and on our social media network. Find Cover Stories on iTunes, as well as on our website under the category "Podcast" on our new.uschess.org/news/page. And don't miss the "Best Question" contest sponsored by *USCFSales.com* and your chance to win a \$50 gift certificate! Send your questions to letters@uschess.org. We also offer "One Move at a Time," the podcast where we talk to people who are advancing our mission statement of "Empowering people through chess, one move at a time." In January, we talk to Jay Stallings, who is celebrating his 25th year as a chess instructor. One Move is available the second Tuesday of every month.

PRO CHESS LEAGUE RETURNS

Look for news and player interviews for the PRO Chess League, which kicks off again on January 8th, culminating in Championship weekend May 4-5. The now-international league, formerly the US Chess League, is headlined by Magnus Carlsen of the Norway Gnomes, Fabiano Caruana of the Saint Louis Archbishops, and Hikaru Nakamura on the Seattle Sluggers. *Photo, far right, by Eric Rosen*

BEST OF CLO

In the whirlwind fall season of World Championships and thrilling contests, you may have missed some incisive and beautifully written pieces on *CLO*. Relive your favorites in our January countdown from #10 to the top article of 2018.

CONTRIBUTORS

JOSHUA ANDERSON

(Collins manuscripts) lives in Exton, Pennsylvania. He has been president of the Chess Journalists of America since 2015 and chief coordinating judge since 2012. He is currently writing a comprehensive work on Donald and Robert Byrne and compiling a *Best of Chess Life* third volume.

GM MAURICE ASHLEY

(Cover Story) made history as the first African-American to achieve the grandmaster title. He has translated his love for chess to others as a three-time national championship coach, two-time author, iPhone app designer, puzzle inventor, and motivational speaker. Ashley also is a popular commentator for high-profile chess events.

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(First Moves, U.S. Chess Center) is a freelance writer based in Washington, D.C. He also is an instructor and program developer with Chess Challenge in DC, an after-school program that brings chess to youths in elementary and middle schools throughout the city. You can occasionally find him at the chess tables in DuPont Circle, the famed chess hub of the nation's capital.

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LETTERS: A SNEAKY CHECK, CORRECTIONS

DISCOVERED CHECK

Editor's note: Never has one puzzle diagram in *Chess Life* generated such a reader response (at least in the era of email and computer analysis)! But Problem I of GM Andy Soltis' column "Chess to Enjoy" in the December issue caused the letters to start arriving in the editors' inboxes on the very day the issue started hitting mailboxes. Here is the diagram:



Here is Soltis' given solution:

PROBLEM I. *Plovdiv 2003:* Black saw 36. ... fxg6 37. Qxh6 mate but not 36. ... Nxe5!. He would get a winning material edge after 37. dxe5 fxg6 or 37. Rxe6 Nxd3! followed by ... fxe6 or ... Nf4+.

And here is a sample of what some readers wrote us:

"Black really is busted. The suggested solution [to Problem I], 36. ... Nxe5 37. Rxe6 Nxd3! fails to 38. Rxh6+ gxh6 39. Qxh6 mate."

"The published solution of Problem I of Soltis' 'Chess to Enjoy' doesn't work. After 36. ... Nxe5 37. Rxe6 Nxd3, White wins with 38. Rxh6+ gxh6 39. Qxh6 mate."

"For the December 2018 'Chess to Enjoy' column, Problem I, the solution claims Black wins decisive material in the line: 36. ... Nxe5 37. Rxe6 Nxd3, threatening 38. ... Nf4+ and 38. ... fxe6. Maybe I'm missing something, but doesn't 38. Rxh6+ win on the spot?"

"I wonder about Problem I. Solution given on p. 69 is 36. ... Nxe5 37. dxe5 fxg6 or 37. Rxe6 Nxd3; however, if the diagram is correct 37. Rxe6 Nxd3 is refuted by 38. Rxh6+, which leads to a quick mate for White."

But what these readers missed is the discovered check down the g-file caused by ... gxh6. Reader **R. Kent Meadows** wasn't fooled. He writes:

"Please see Problem I, page 15, of the December issue. Black resigned in a winning position. The solution for the Korchnoi-Van der Stricht game gives one line for Black to win (after 36. ... Nxe5!) as '37. Rxe6 Nxd3! followed by ... fxe6 or ... Nf4+.' One might think at first glance that 38. Rxh6+ gxh6 (forced) is answered by 39. Qxh6 mate winning for White, except that 38. ... gxh6 is check!—and Black should win. Sneaky!"

"One might say that this is only such a little thing, but little things like this problem show just how consistently superlative this article is. Fun!"



AFTER 38. ... gxh6+

We're glad to note that so many of you are actively working on these quizzes. This missed check got us thinking: While it is obviously a discovered check, it is also a very special type of situational check that doesn't really have a name: One caused when intense action on part of the board causes a check on the far side of the board. We think this type of check is deserving of its own name—what say you, readers? Send your suggestions to letters@uschess.org.

Do you have any games with an example of this type of check (either from your own game or from well-known players)? Send those along, too. Whoever comes up with the best name for this check, or who sends us the best game example (as determined by the editors), will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to uscfsales.com.

Send your letters to letters@uschess.org. Letters are subject to editing for style, length, and content.

In Memoriam

WIM RUTH HARING 1955-2018

Former US Chess president Ruth Inez Haring of Chico, California, died November 29, 2018. Haring, who was only the second woman to serve as a US Chess president, sat on the Executive Board from 2009-2015 and was the current FIDE Zonal 2.1 (USA) president, a post she entered in 2017. She also served on the FIDE Ethics Commission and the CalChess Board of Directors.

A Women's International Master (WIM), Haring began playing tournament chess in 1969 and represented the USA in five Women's Olympiads (1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982) and an Interzonal.

US Chess is deeply saddened by the loss of this ardent friend, supporter, and leader. Look for Franc Guadalupe's tribute to Haring in the February issue of *Chess Life*.

CORRECTIONS

Eagle-eyed readers Don Soards and Rich Vondruska caught an error in October's "Chess to Enjoy." Problem III should have read **21. ... Nh2+ 22. Kg1** (22. Ke2 Kxe6) **22. ... Nf3+ 23. Kh1 Rh8+**. Soards also found an error in Problem VI, which should have read **39. ... Ra2 40. Re2 b3!** and 41. ... c3 wins (42. bxc3 Rxe2 and 43. ... b2).

Another reader, Harold Winston, discovered an error in December's "Chess to Enjoy" quiz. The answer to question 20 should have been c) Efim Bogoljubov, because Benko did not play a match with Alekhine in 1934.

USCHESS AFFAIRS

US Chess is pleased to announce the 2019 All-America Chess Team, sponsored by Trophies Plus and former All America Chess Team member Robby Adamson. Team members were presented with their team jackets and plaques at the 2018 National K-12 Grade Championships, held from December 14th through the 16th at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Florida.

The All-America Chess Team was created in 1987 to honor the very best players ages 18 and under. The team, one of the highest national honors attainable by a young chess player, is selected on the basis of age, rating, and chess activity during that year, similar to the selection process of “all conference” sports teams. This year’s candidates were selected based on their age as of January 1, 2018, and their peak post-tournament rating from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Since this award is a “post-season” selection, the minimum rating limits in each age group are reviewed annually by US Chess staff and the US Chess Scholastic Council.

US Chess wishes to congratulate each of the 53 members of this year’s All-America Chess Team for receiving this prestigious award!



THE OLDEST TEAM MEMBERS, AKSHAT CHANDRA (TOP) AND ANDREW TANG (BOTTOM), MAKE THEIR FINAL APPEARANCES ON THE TEAM THIS YEAR.

2019 ALL-AMERICA CHESS TEAM

AGE 18

(Minimum peak rating 2500)

ANDREW TANG
AKSHAT CHANDRA

AGE 17

(minimum peak rating 2475)

JEFFERY XIONG
SAMUEL SEVIAN
CRAIG HILBY
JOSHUA SHENG
VIGNESH PANCHANATHAM
ROLAND FENG
CAMERON WHEELER
ZHAOZHI LI
BRYCE TIGLON
JOHN GABRIEL LUDWIG

AGE 16

(minimum peak rating 2450)

RUIFENG LI
JOHN MICHAEL BURKE
NICOLAS CHECA

AGE 15

(minimum peak rating 2425)

ADVAIT PATEL
DAVID BRODSKY
PRAVEEN BALAKRISHNAN
BEN LI
JENNIFER YU
RAYAN TAGHIZADEH

AGE 14

(minimum peak rating 2400)

AWONDER LIANG
DAVID TIANJIAN PENG
BRANDON JACOBSON
HANS MOKE NIEMANN
CARISSA SHIWEN YIP

AGE 13

(minimum peak rating 2350)

ANDREW ZHANG HONG
WESLEY WANG
CHRISTOPHER SHEN

AGE 12

(minimum peak rating 2300)

JUSTIN WANG
ANTHONY BI HE
BALAJI DAGGUPATI
MAXIMILLIAN LU

AGE 11

(minimum peak rating 2225)

CHRISTOPHER WOOJIN YOO
ARTHUR GUO
JASON YUYANG WANG
DEREK CLASBY
NICO WERNER CHASIN
ROCHELLE WU

AGE 10

(minimum peak rating 2150)

EVAN S PARK
ERIC YUHAN LI
VYOM VIDYARTHI

AGE 9

(minimum peak rating 2050)

LIRAN ZHOU
DIMITAR MARDOV
LIAM HENRY PUTNAM
SRIRAM KRISHNAKUMAR
ERICK ZHAO

AGE 8 & UNDER

(minimum peak rating 1950)

ABHIMANYU MISHRA
BRYAN XIE
HARSHID KUNKA
STEVE WONGSO
BREWINGTON HARDAWAY
SEBASTIAN PRESTIA

The Value of Experiences

Since 1992, the U.S. Chess Center has positively influenced at-risk youth through chess.

By JAMAAL ABDUL-ALIM



IM-ELECT JENNIFER YU, A FORMER PARTICIPANT AT THE U.S. CHESS CENTER'S TOURNAMENTS, RETURNED TO THE CENTER TO HOST A SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION AS PART OF THE GRAND RE-OPENING FESTIVITIES.

IF YOU WANTED TO FIND EVIDENCE of the impact of David Mehler's U.S. Chess Center, one of the best places to start would be Ballou High School in the southeast section of Washington, D.C.

That's where Mehler first met Tai'Lon Jackson, who at the time was a trombone player in the school's marching band. The school is one of several high schools in the district where Mehler and several other chess instructors have taught chess to students.

"Our mission has remained consistent for more than 25 years," Mehler says of the U.S. Chess Center, which recently located to an office at a residential building in Silver Spring,

Maryland, just outside of Washington, D.C.

"Our mission is to use chess as a vehicle to teach young people academic and social skills," Mehler says. "Our primary mission is to work with at-risk youth."

"But in fact, we work with young people of all types and have found that it's a nice thing to mix people from different circumstances."

Ballou High School isn't known for a lot of good things. In fact, even when the school attracted media attention in 2017 for getting 100 percent of its graduating seniors into college, the story ended up being too good to be true. A closer look revealed that many of the students at Ballou were not supposed to be graduating

in the first place because they had missed so many classes. The situation ended up being one of the biggest education scandals of the year.

Before the graduation scandal, Tai'Lon observed that his high school was a school with a low graduation rate and "better known for our outstanding marching band than for academic achievement."

Tai'Lon wanted more out of school. He wanted to play chess. So in the 10th grade he asked Mehler, who used to visit his high school weekly during the lunch hour, to teach him.

"When he asked if I would help him learn to play chess, the answer of course was going to be 'Yes,'" Mehler says. "The answer for



TAI'LOON JACKSON CREDITS THE U.S. CHESS CENTER WITH CHANGING HIS LIFE AMBITION. UPON GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL, TAI'LOON ATTENDED THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY ON A FULL SCHOLARSHIP AND CURRENTLY WORKS FOR A GLOBAL AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE COMPANY.

everybody is 'Yes.'"

Mehler recognized something special in Tai'Lon.

"Tai'Lon was a particularly bright kid," Mehler says. "You could see the spark in his eyes.

"He caught on very quickly to the game," Mehler recalls. "I encouraged him to participate in our Sunday program," he says of the Sunday classes that the center offers to young people.

"Because he came from a background of extreme poverty, he couldn't make it from where he lived in Anacostia without my giving him bus fare," Mehler says of the neighborhood where Tai'Lon lived. "So I gave him bus fare and he came.

"He was very excited about coming and learning and chess."

Tai'Lon ultimately won the right to represent the District of Columbia in the 2012 Denker Tournament of High School Champions.

Tai'Lon didn't exactly set the chess world on fire. In fact, he finished 48 in a field of 48 players.

But you can't measure the value of this particular experience strictly in terms of wins, losses, and rating points.

"The experience my mother and I had in flying across the country to play in the chess tournament changed my ambitions," Tai'Lon wrote in a 2015 letter to Mehler. "Without the U.S. Chess Center, I would not be in college now."

And not just any college. Back when he was at Ballou, Tai'Lon won a four-year scholarship to The George Washington University (GWU). He graduated from GWU

this past spring. He is currently employed as a background investigator at a global aerospace and defense company.

Tai'Lon's story is just one of several that demonstrates how the U.S. Chess Center has been an active and influential player on the chess scene in and around the nation's capital. To get a sense of how diverse the Chess Center's activities are, consider the fact that the Center offers chess classes at a mosque in McLean, Virginia.

The center has drawn support from politicians, such as U.S. Congressman Jamie Raskin, to chess legends such as Garry Kasparov, who appeared via Skype to converse with kids participating in a tournament to mark the center's new location.

Among the many young chess players who have participated in the center's tournaments is 16-year-old IM-elect Jennifer Yu of Ashburn, Virginia, who recently won international attention and a bronze medal at the 2018 World Women Chess Olympiad in Batumi.

Jennifer recalls playing in several tournaments and events hosted by the U.S. Chess Center when she was young. She recently gave a simultaneous exhibition at the center's grand re-opening in Silver Spring.

She described the center as a "stable place to play chess."

"It's a lot more fun. Kids make friends," Jennifer says. "You can always count on it." ♠

Since 1992, the U.S. Chess Center has taught chess to more than 35,000 children in the D.C. metro area as a means of improving their academic and social skills. For more information about the Center, visit www.chessctr.org.

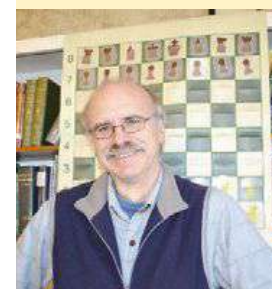
FACES ACROSS THE BOARD

By AL LAWRENCE

GLENN BUDZINSKI

NEWTOWN,
CONNECTICUT

"The game you keep for life"



Glenn Budzinski planned a career in the foreign intelligence service after his postgraduate studies at Georgetown University. But traveling the world in a trench coat ultimately didn't appeal. That was lucky for Connecticut chess.

Forty years ago, Glenn was a young member of the old Newtown Chess Club. Moving back to town a generation later, he used the local library to reboot the club, now grown to 60 members.

"My mother taught me to play chess when I was four, probably to give her some occasional peace," he said. Glenn and his uncle Paul played throughout the years. Paul recently passed away at age 96—"We had a correspondence game going right to the very end. Chess is the game you keep for life." But it was high school algebra teacher/chess team coach Dave Strong, a two-time state chess champ and Connecticut's all-time winningest high school girls' basketball coach, who introduced Budzinski to competitive chess. The two still get together.

In the primordial internet era, Glenn produced probably the first-ever U.S. electronic chess column, the "Weekly Knight," plus one of the first master-game databases, the "Electronic Chess Library." He wrote hundreds of online chess reviews.

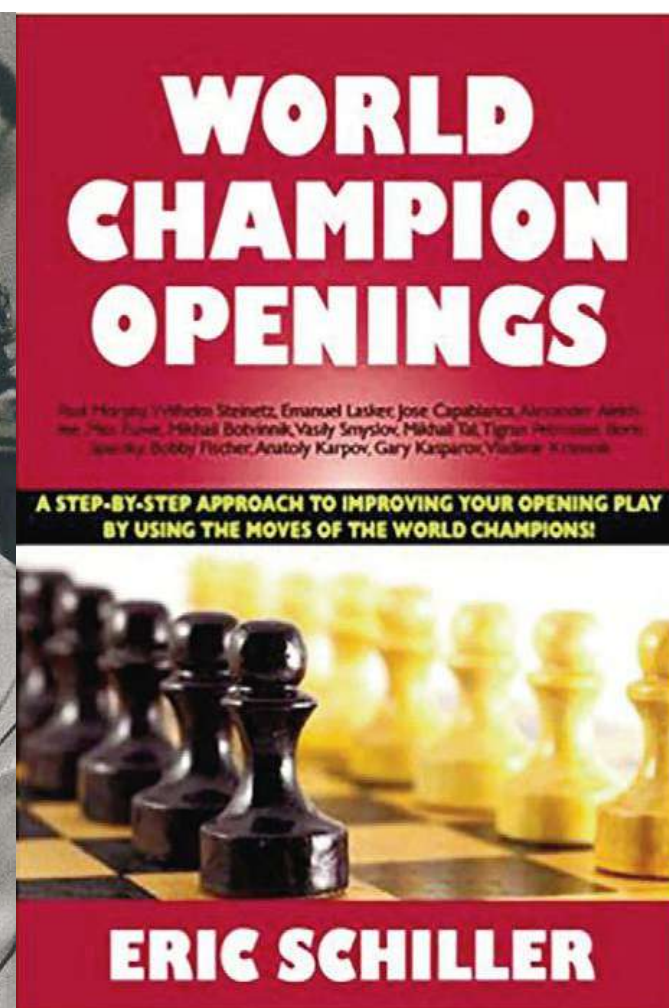
Retiring from the corporate legal world six years ago, he founded the nonprofit Connecticut Kids Play Chess, Inc., "to offer real chess instruction in schools, not just play time." In an era when more than half of U.S. lawyers and medical students are women, Budzinski sees "no reason for more girls not to play chess, the ultimate brain game."

So last fall, he arranged for attorney FM Alisa Melekhina to visit his chess camp. "Gracious, bright, and elegant, she bonded with the girls. A female role model is crucial." This summer, Glenn "took a shot" to bring U.S. Champion GM Sam Shankland to Newtown, sending a "cold" email to the grandmaster's website. That paid off with an impressive lecture and simultaneous exhibition (simul). Glenn wasn't so lucky with GM Magnus Carlsen, even before he was world champ, whose agent wanted a prohibitive \$20,000 for a 30-board simul. "Plus dinner—that part seemed important."

Write to faces@uschess.org.



FM ERIC SCHILLER
WITH JUDY GROSSMAN
IN AN UNDATED
PHOTO.



Remembering Eric Schiller

MARCH 20, 1955 – NOVEMBER 3, 2018

My First Favorite Chess Book: Eric Schiller's *World Champion Openings*

By **ALEX KING**

On November 3, 2018, the chess world lost FM Eric Schiller, one of the most prolific chess authors of all time. Schiller had long battled various health issues, and at 63 years old was “one square away from a full board” (Fischer and Steinitz are among the notable chessplayers who died at 64).

Although Schiller was an accomplished player, arbiter, organizer, reporter, and teacher, he is best known for the more than one hundred books he wrote. While Schiller's books are quite popular with beginning- and club-level players, they also have attracted significant criticism from reviewers for sloppiness, frequent errors, and even plagiarism. Hugh Myers in *CHESS* magazine described Schiller as “an assassin of chess history” and Edward Winter wrote on his website Chess Notes that Schiller had “a peerless record for factual howlers.” Despite those comments, I will always remember him as the author of my first favorite chess book, *World Champion Openings* (WCO).

I bought WCO (Cardoza Publishing, 1997) at the 1999 National K-12 Grade Championships in Louisville, Kentucky, my third tournament ever. I was in fifth grade and rated in the 800s, and much of WCO, which consisted of a brief overview of all the major opening systems with illustrative games by the world champions, was still beyond my understanding. I only read about the first third of it (at the time I didn't have much interest in 1. d4 openings, which I

rarely encountered with either color), but I loved the look and feel of the book, the colorful annotations, the world champions themselves, and of course, all those openings. When Schiller wrote that GM Vasily Smyslov's opening repertoire “[is] far from ideal for the beginner or intermediate player, but as one approaches mastery, it is a wonderful model,” it made me wonder if I might one day approach mastery and finally get to use those rarefied openings.

Since then I have not only approached (and reached!) mastery but even taken up 1. d4, the French, and other openings of Smyslov's that I wouldn't have been caught dead playing as a kid. After Schiller's passing, I reacquired a copy of WCO and read it cover to cover. Yes, I noticed plenty of glaring errors—“Emil Zukertort,” “Kirsten Iljumzhingov”—but I also rediscovered some wonderful passages, such as how Schiller compared the Najdorf, Dragon, and Classical variations of the Sicilian to Tchaikovsky, Wagner, and Schubert. I also revisited all of the classic games the book introduced me to, like Game 10 of the 1995 World Championship, where GM Viswanathan Anand played the Open Spanish and GM Garry Kasparov won brilliantly by sacrificing his rook on a1.

Perfect the book is not, but just as a teacher does not need to be perfect to be great (my first chess coach was rated 900), neither does a book. WCO started me on a beautiful journey that I'm still on today, and I will never outgrow it—the first cut is the deepest. Thank you, Eric Schiller. ♠

For more about Schiller, see our obituary on uschess.org (search “Schiller”) that includes a number of personal tributes in the comments section.

BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS



CHESS BOOK, 1471

The Göttingen manuscript, the first book dedicated solely to chess

ENGLISH CHESS BOOK, 1474

The Game and Playe of Chesse by William Caxton

CHESS COLUMN, 1813
in *The Liverpool Mercury*

CHESS PERIODICAL, 1836

Le Palamède, founded in France by Louis-Charles Mahé de la Bourdonnais.

CHESS FIRSTS

US CHESS FIRSTS

U.S. OPEN ORGANIZED BY US CHESS, 1940

in Dallas; Reuben Fine won

US CHESS RATING LIST, 1949

Reuben Fine and Samuel Reshevsky were 1 and 2, respectively.

US CHESS EVENT USING SWISS SYSTEM, 1945

U.S. Open in Corpus Christi

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION IN *CHESS LIFE*, 1969

in Benko's Bafflers

Check this page throughout 2019 for fun facts about US Chess as we celebrate our 80th anniversary.



BLINDFOLD GAME, AROUND 665-714

first blindfold game attributed to Sa'id bin Jubair (He did *not* use a stationary bike!)

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION, 12TH CENTURY

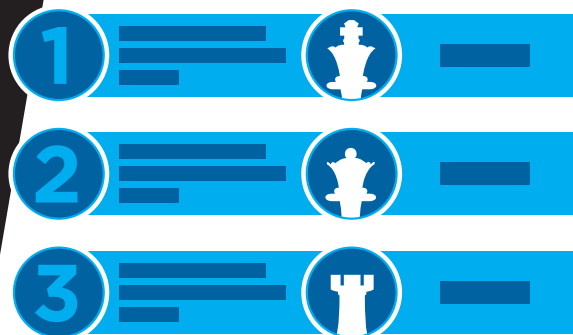
A form of algebraic chess notation appeared in a European document referred to as *MS. Paris Fr. 1173 (PP.)*.

TOURNAMENT, 1575

Italy versus Spain. Italians Leonardo da Cutri and Paolo Boi traveled to Madrid to play Ruy Lopez and Alfonso Ceron (Italy won 3-2).

WORLD CHAMPION, 1886

William Steinitz defeated Johannes Zukertort to become the first official world chess champion.



MODERN RATING SYSTEM, 1939

The first modern rating system was used by the Correspondence Chess League of America.



TECHNOLOGY

PERCEIVED COMPUTER, 1770

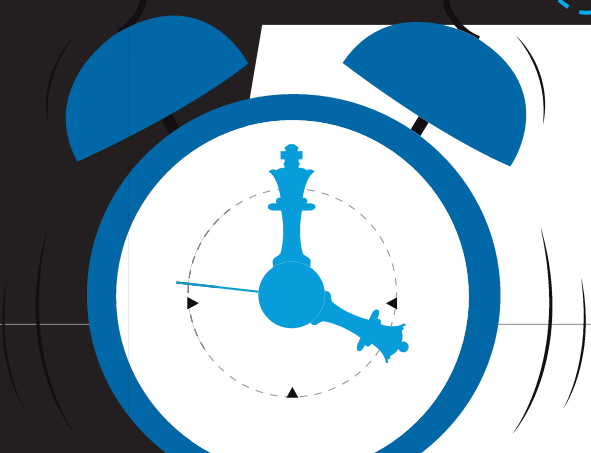
Thought to be a machine, the Mechanical Turk turned out to be a hoax.

CHESS CLOCK, 1861

sand hourglasses with three hours' worth of sand each

COMPUTER WIN, 1997

IBM's Deep Blue defeated GM Garry Kasparov 3½-1½.



ELECTRONIC GAME, 1844
a telegraph match played between the chess clubs of Baltimore and Washington, DC.

Annotation Reconfiguration?

Computers have changed the way we analyze, but annotation needs to catch up.

By **GM ANDY SOLTIS**

COMPUTERS HAVE CHANGED THE WAY we enjoy chess. It's about time we changed the way we annotate games.

Like many professionals, annotators rely on simplistic jargon—"White has a slight advantage" and "Black has counterplay"—to convey imprecise thoughts about complex situations. But computers have the power to be precise. That means many of these terms are candidates for retirement.



BLACK TO MOVE

When the game GM Konstantin Lerner-GM Smbat Lputian, Soviet Championship 1985 was analyzed, an annotator evaluated this position with a symbol, a plus-sign-over-equal-sign. That means White has a small advantage.

Now it's true that after 1. ... Ra1 and 2. Rxh5, for example, is a very difficult endgame for a human to play as White or Black. But now we have six-piece tablebases that can tell us what happens if the best moves are made: Black can draw. If it's White's turn, he can win by force in 37 moves beginning with Rh7!

"White has a slight advantage" is as misleading in many annotations as if an article about tic-tac-toe told you that the player who

goes first "has good winning chances." Yes, X has chances—but only if Y blunders.

More and more endgames are becoming tic-tac-toe. The number increased a few months ago when a popular site, *lichess.org*, began offering a free *seven-piece* tablebase.

There are some annotation terms that will remain useful until computers are much better. For example, "White has the initiative" and "Black has compensation for his sacrificed material." But there are fewer and fewer positions that can be disposed of with "unclear."

WHO'S BETTER?

IM Heinz Lehmann

GM Borislav Ivkov

Palma de Mallorca (7), Palma, Spain,
12.01.1968



AFTER 52. Nh6+

A draw was agreed. In the *Chess Informant*, Black gave an infinity sign after the final move. This meant the position was "unclear" and indicated that the players drew because they couldn't tell who was better.

Today's engines might say that neither side has real winning chances. A draw by repetition

of moves could come about from 52. ... Kg7 53. Nh5+ Kh7 54. Nhf6+. Or from 52. ... Kh8 53. Bd4 Nd6 54. Be5 Nf7 55. Bd4 Nd6.

Another annotational device that is headed for retirement is similar to what punctuation mavens call an interrobang. You know it as the mixture of an exclamation point and a question mark; that is, "!?" (A true interrobang is an exclamation point and question mark superimposed over one another.)

The "!?" that we use is shorthand for "an interesting move" or "a move deserving attention." But in practice, "!?" is often an annotator's way of saying "This move is either good or bad but for the life of me I can't tell which." Today, computers can tell us which.

But computers have also created the need for a new annotational tool. It would describe a move that is objectively dubious. But it has the best chance of success against a human opponent. Here's what I mean:

OBJECTIVELY DUBIOUS

GM Loek Van Wely

GM Magnus Carlsen

Corus (10), Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands,
01.23.2008

(see diagram next page)

White has a big edge. Stockfish 9 quantifies it as +2.41 and says Black's best move is 30. ... Rf8. But then White can trade twice on c8 and should win.

Instead, Black went for **30. ... Nb2**. After **31. Qf3! Qxc2+ 32. Re2 Qb1 33. Bxf5 Qxf5**. White's advantage has more than doubled, computers tell us. So, should the annotator award 30. ... Nb2 one question mark or two?

Russian Higher League

Enough positional subtleties. This month's quiz is about checkmate. In each of the six diagrams, taken from the games of the last Russian Higher League, you are asked to find the fastest winning line of play. But this won't mind the win of a mere rook or knight. This month there will be a mate in at least one key variation after the first move. For solutions, see page 71.

PROBLEM I

GM Evgeny Alekseev
Oleg Bykov



WHITE TO PLAY

PROBLEM II

FM Timur Fakhruddinov
GM Sergey Volkov



WHITE TO PLAY

PROBLEM III

GM Pavel Ponkratov
GM Grigoriy Oparin



BLACK TO PLAY

PROBLEM IV

GM David Paravyan
IM Klementy Sychev



WHITE TO PLAY

PROBLEM V

GM Dmitry Gordievsky
IM Miran Oganian



WHITE TO PLAY

PROBLEM VI

GM Vadim Moiseenko
FM Egor Bykov



BLACK TO PLAY



AFTER 30. Rb8

Neither. Black's play is the best bid for swindling chances, such as 34. ... Qh3+ 35. Kh1 Kf7 and ... Bg4. That's why computer-recommended moves like 32. ... Qc3 and 32. ... Qd3 are hopeless.

We need a new symbol to describe dubious-but-practical moves. When I scan my keyboard I see a symbol in the upper left corner that we haven't found a good chess use for. So, I would write Black's move as 30. ... Nb2~.

The game went **34. g4! Qf7 35. Bxe7 h5 36. Bxd6 hxg4**. No wonder that Stockfish says White's advantage has ballooned to more than +7.00.

But Black—the world's best swindler—is finding the moves most likely to work against a human. Suddenly, there are ways for White to lose his advantage (37. Qxg4? Qxd5+).

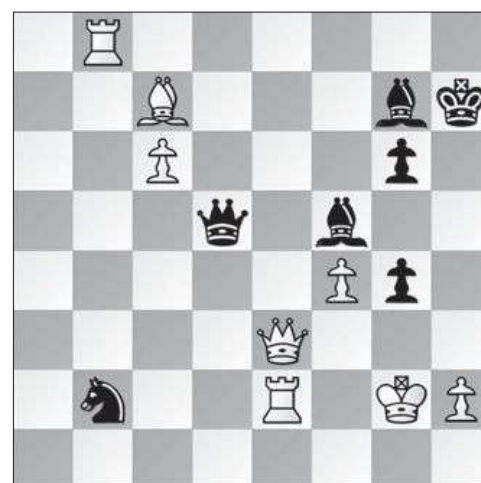
Of course, if a computer held the White pieces it would win, such as with 37. Qb3 and

38. Bxc7. But a human White preferred **37. Qe4** so he could trade queens with 38. Qe8+. Black replied **37. ... Kh7!**.

White could have played 38. Rxbxb2 and wait, after 38. ... Bf5 39. Qc4 Bxb2 40. Bxc7, for Black to resign. Instead, he played the computer-endorsed **38. Bxc7** and had to find an answer to **38. ... Bf5**.

After the game it all seemed so simple: After 39. Qe7! Qxd5+ 40. Kg1! there is no perpetual check. White's edge is nearly the size of an extra queen. The annotators would say Black's moves have been getting worse and worse.

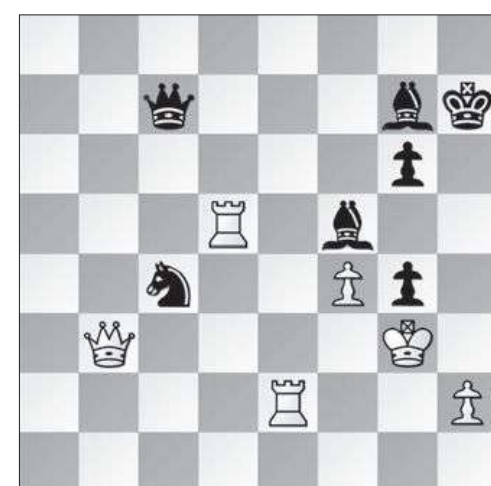
However, White played the safer-looking **39. Qe3?? Qxd5+**.



A little irony: White needed "computer moves" now, such as 40. Kg1! Bd4 41. Rh8+! followed by 42. Be5(+).

Instead he played **40. Kg3**, so that 40. ... Bd4 would lose to 41. Be5!. However, **40. ... Nc4!** continued to turn the tables.

White needed another "computer move," 41. Rd8! Qxc6 42. Qb3 Qxc7 43. Rd5.



ANALYSIS AFTER 43. Rd5

But he chose **41. Qf2** and was getting mated, **41. ... Qd3+ 42. Kg2 Be4+ 43. Rxe4 Qxe4+ 44. Kf1 Qd3+ 45. Qe2 Nd2+**, before he resigned.

So how do you explain what happened? A computer would blame 39. Qe3??, 40. Kg3??, 41. Qf2? and 45. Qe2?.

True. But I would also credit 30. ... Nb2~, 32. ... Qb1~ and 37. ... Kh7~.♠

Did you know you could read archival copies of "Chess to Enjoy" (and all columns and features)? Go to uschess.org, click on "Chess Life Magazine," and then "Archives."

The Eternal Pin and How to Use it

Strategies are important, but tactics—decisive.

By **GM LEV ALBURT**

THE WINNER OF THIS MONTH'S AWARD, Paul Axel-Lute, wisely separated his actual thoughts during the game from his post-mortem analysis and (perhaps assisted—fine!) discoveries. A very good example to follow when analyzing your games!

(My own further comments will be in italics.)

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED, CHIGORIN DEFENSE (D07)

Paul Axel-Lute (1519)

Noah Reiss (1486).

ALB-SCH2017, Game 90 d5, 08.24.2017

I've tried to report what I actually thought during the game. Things I didn't think about or know about until afterward are in square brackets.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 Nc6 3. Nf3

Another promising, and perhaps more direct, line: 3. Nc3.

3. ... Bg4 4. Nc3

[According to the *chessgames.com* database, the most common move is 4. cxd5, but 4. Nc3 is almost as common and has about the same success rate.] I considered 4. e3 but didn't want to shut in the dark-square bishop.

4. ... Bxf3

[*Chessgames.com* says this move has a low success rate for Black.]

Stronger is 4. ... e6.

5. exf3

(see diagram top of next column)

I'm thinking: Oh, well, already I have a weakness, doubled pawns.



The best capture, as it opens the f1-bishop and prepares to castle—into safety.

5. ... e6 6. cxd5 exd5

And I have another weakness, an isolated queen's pawn.

But Black's d5-pawn is even weaker.

7. Bb5 Bb4

I considered 8. Bxc6+ to double his pawns, but I wasn't eager to give up the bishop pair or open the b-file for his rook.

So far, this is Margarita Voiska-Anthony Miles, Ibercaja 1993. My preference here: 8. Qb3, with some edge for White.

8. O-O Nge7 9. Re1

With some misgiving about the pin on my knight.

9. ... O-O 10. Bg5

(see diagram top of next column)

To provoke a weakening of his kingside, which follows.

An excellent idea, which also occurs in the above-mentioned game.

10. ... f6 11. Bf4



11. Be3!, protecting the d4-pawn, was better.

11. ... a6 12. Bd3?

Here I'm thinking, if now 12. ... Nxd4, I go 13. Bxh7+ Kxh7 14. Qxd4 and Black's kingside is further weakened. But actually, that would have given Black a passed pawn and the open h-file for his rook. Play might have proceeded 14. ... c5 15. Qd3+ Kg8 16. Re2 Bxc3, and now either recapture seems to leave Black with a superior position.

More likely, close to equal.

Black avoids those exchanges and goes for trading off the dark-square bishops:

12. ... Bd6 13. Bxd6

The only reasonable alternative seemed to be 13. Be3, which I didn't like because it would block my rook and prevent the buildup of a battery.

The reasoning is fair, but 13. Be3 is still the best move—again, protecting the d4-pawn! (see my note to 11. Bf4).

13. ... Qxd6 14. a3

To prevent ... Nb4 forcing either the minor exchange or a bishop retreat to the first rank.

14. ... Kh8 15. Bc2 Rae8 16. Qd2

To let the other rook join the battery.

16. ... Nd8



To protect the e6-square, or allow the c-pawn to advance? [But better would have been 16 ... Nc8, aiming to exchange rooks.]

17. Re3

In order not to have the queen on top of the battery; perhaps also to give my knight a pathway to the kingside; perhaps also to allow my rook to get over to the h-file. I also considered 17. b4 to prevent ... c7-c5.

17. ... c6

Too passive: now the pin becomes unpleasant.

18. Rae1 Qd7 19. Qe2

Three attackers on e7, only two defenders, and the knight on e7 is pinned because the e8-rook also has only two defenders. Thus, Black's next move is forced.

19. ... Rf7 20. Qd3

Mating threat to force further weakening of Black's kingside.

Here, I'd prefer 20. Na4, aiming for the c5-square.

20. ... g6 21. g4

Possibly starting a pawn storm.

I doubt it. 21. ... f5!, and if 22. gxf5, then 22. ... Rf8 with an attack, and an edge for Black.

21. ... Rff8

To allow the e7-knight to move and have two protectors on the e8-rook. But I force the rook back with ...

22. Qe2 Rf7 23. h3



Thinking about playing f3-f4.

Again, 23. Na4 was stronger.

23. ... b6

A blunder. After 23. ... Qd6 or 23. ... Qc7, White is only a bit better. Even 23. ... b5, to stop Nc3-a4, was playable (one best met by—yes, Paul! —24. f4.)

Offering the a6-pawn to my queen. If I take it, ... b6-b5 might delay my queen from getting back to my battery.

24. a4

After the (self-confident and) natural 24. Qxa6 (if 24. ... b5, 25. a4), White has both a pawn and positional pressure. Now it's back to square one, a small edge.

24. ... a5 25. h4 Rg7

Potentially pinning my g-pawn to allow him to advance ... h7-h5.

26. Bd3

I'm starting to think of skewering his queen and rook.

A daydream, while 26. Qa6 could still create some problems for Black.

26. ... Nb7

Perhaps the knight is heading to d6 to add protection to the rook on e8. But this allows me to threaten f6.

Indeed. Thus 26. ... Qd6 was better than 26. ... Nb7.

27. Re6 Rf7 28. Nb5?



Right (great!) idea, wrong execution. After 28. Rxc6!, the daydream (of the 26th move) becomes a reality, with White solidly a pawn (plus) up.

28. ... Kg7

White problem: capturing on b5 isn't forced!

29. Kg2

To enable the advance g5 without allowing ... Qh3.

29. ... Nd8

If 30. Nd6, Rh8 with approximate equality. Now White loses a piece (for a pawn).

30. Re3 cxb5 31. Bxb5

I remember being surprised that Black now had this knight interposition. My next move renews the threat of the skewer.

31. ... Ndc6 32. Re6



32. ... Kf8?

Black's best response seems to be 32. ... Rc8, leaving everything protected and Black ahead by a minor piece, showing that my sacrifice on move 28 was unsound.

33. Bxc6

The game is over.

33. ... Nxc6 34. Rxe8+ Kg7 35. Qb5

White is up the Exchange and Black cannot protect both the b6-pawn and the d5-pawn.

35. ... Qc7 36. Qxd5 Nb4 37. Qe4 Nc2 38. Rc1 Ne3+ 39. Qxe3, Black resigned.

Protecting the c1-rook—the nice final touch.

During this game, at several moments, White squandered (his advantage); once, on move 30, he even blundered (a piece). Still, the prevailing theme—two rooks and a queen battery on the only open file, with an uncomfortable pin on Black's e7-knight—in the end prevailed.♠

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Stubborn Defense

Jeffery Xiong delivers a world-class performance at the 2018 *Chess.com* Isle of Man International.

By **GM ROBERT HESS**

JEFFERY XIONG HAD A WORLD-CLASS performance at the 2018 *Chess.com* Isle of Man International. The 2016 World Junior champion fended off five players rated above 2720, making draws with black against GM Vladimir Kramnik and GM Hikaru Nakamura and with white against GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and GM Wang Hao. His plus score was thanks to this fierce battle with Hungarian superstar GM Richard Rapport.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING (D02)

GM Richard Rapport (FIDE 2725, HUN)

GM Jeffery Xiong (FIDE 2656, USA)

Chess.com Isle of Man International Masters 2018 (5), Douglas, England, 10.24.2018

1. d4 Nf6 2. c3

Rapport remains one of the most fascinating players in the world, willing to venture into any opening. This makes him nearly impossible to prepare for. In this game, how could Jeffery possibly expect such a tame second move? But looks can be deceiving!

2. ... d5 3. Nf3 e6 4. Bg5 Nbd7 5. Nbd2 h6 6. Bh4 b6 7. e4!



Just when it seemed like the game would head down a positional path, Rapport makes the game tactical.

7. ... g5

The correct response, challenging Rapport to prove his pawn sacrifice can lead to something positive.

Unnecessarily accommodating is 7. ... dxe4 8. Nxe4 Be7 (8. ... Bb7 9. Nxf6+ Nxf6 10. Ne5 is too pleasant for White, who has more space and is ready to ruin Black's queenside pawn structure with a check. 10. ... a6 11. Qa4+ c6 12. Be2 is cramped and suspicious for Black.) 9. Nxf6+ Bxf6 10. Bxf6 Nxf6 with a transposition to a French, in which White has a slight advantage.

8. Bg3 dxe4

Incorrect would have been 8. ... Nxe4 because Black quickly loses the right to castle after 9. Nxe4 dxe4 10. Ne5. White threatens 11. Bb5, while 10. ... Nxe5 11. Bxe5 forces 11. ... Rg8 and White gets the initiative and a much safer king.

9. Ne5 Bb7 10. Bb5 a6

Jeffery wisely deals with the pin, lest he be forced to make further concessions.

After 10. ... Bg7 11. Qe2 (11. Qa4 undoubtedly is tempting, but Black escapes with 11. ... a6 12. Bc6 Bxc6 13. Qxc6 0-0 14. Nxe4 Nxe4 when 15. Nxd7 fails to lead anywhere after 15. ... Nxg3 16. hxg3 Qe8 and White must eventually retreat and exchange with Ne5, or else lose the knight. For example, 17. Rxh6 is met by [17. Qxc7 Qe7 wins the knight since 18. Qc6 is met by 18. ... Rfc8] 17. ... f6 followed by ... Rf7) 11. ... a6 12. Bc6 Bxc6 13. Nxc6 Qc8 14. 0-0-0 Qb7 15. Ne5 with a much better structure for White, who will

regain the sacrificed pawn and have a long-term advantage.

11. Bc6

Retreating with 11. Ba4 could have led to a pawn-down position with massive compensation: 11. ... b5 12. Bc2 e3 13. fxe3 Bxg2 14. Rg1 Bb7 15. Nxd7 Nxd7 16. Qe2.

11. ... Bxc6 12. Nxc6 Qc8 13. Qe2 Qb7 14. Ne5 Bd6 15. Nxd7 Kxd7



16. 0-0

After a series of trades, Rapport opts to castle short—a surprising decision for someone with his aggressive style.

The try 16. Be5 is in the spirit of the position. 16. ... Bxe5 (16. ... Ke7 17. Bxf6+ Kxf6 18. Nxe4+ Kg7 when 19. Qf3 threatens both infiltration on f6 and Nxg5 winning a pawn, while the simple 19. 0-0 will give White attacking chances on the f-file. [18. ... Ke7 19. Qf3 still works well for White.]) 17. dxe5 Nd5 is quite promising for White, who can take on e4 with either piece or simply castle long. Black will suffer trying to defend weak pawns and compromised squares.

16. ... Bf4!

A very important move that keeps the center closed. With his king on d7, Jeffery could not afford to give his opponent a second chance to play Be5 or let f3 open up files.

17. f3 e3

Supported by Black's prior move. Now that Rapport remains a pawn down, he has to activate quickly enough to avoid being worse.

Opening the f-file is a recipe for disaster. In the following line, where queens are forcibly traded, White goes up a pawn. 17. ... exf3 18. Nxf3 Qe4 19. Qxe4 Nxe4 20. Bxf4 gxf4 21. Ne5+ Ke7 22. Nxf7! Kxf7 23. Rxf4+ Nf6 24. Raf1.

18. Nc4 Nd5 19. Bxf4 gxf4 20. Ne5+ Ke8 21. Qe1 c5

Black can prevent c4 with 21. ... b5 but must properly evaluate a variety of options that include the double-edged position that occurs after: 22. Qh4 (22. a4 c6 23. Qh4 looks irksome, as all of Black's pieces remain tied down and the king remains stuck in the center. However, White has no clear way to make progress and if Black is able to avoid losing the f4-pawn, then offering an exchange of queens will almost always result in a promising ending.) 22. ... c5 23. dxc5 Qe7 24. Qxe7+ Kxe7 25. a4 Material is equal, but there are dynamic imbalances: Black has an advanced passed pawn whereas White is challenging the queenside, where he has a four on two majority.

22. c4



Jeffery has a critical decision to make. His options are to sacrifice his knight for three pawns and steer the game into less tactical waters or keep his minor piece and face a potentially vicious Rapport attack.

22. ... cxd4?!

Objectively, 22. ... Nb4 was a stronger move than the game continuation. But it's much easier to understand that in hindsight. 23. Qc3 (There are no useful discoveries after 23. dxc5 Nc2 24. Qc3 Nxa1. Black will just scoot his rook over when it is attacked. The surplus pawn is even stronger in the case of 23. Qh4 cxd4 24. Qxf4 Rd8) 23. ... Rg8 24. dxc5 bxc5 25. Ng4 (25. Rfd1 Nc6 26. Rd7 looks like it spells trouble, yet Black has the resource 26. ... Qb4 27. Nxc6

Qxc3 28. Re7+ Kf8 29. bxc3 Rc8 to win back the knight and remain up a pawn.) 25. ... Nc6 26. Nf6+ Ke7 27. Nxg8+ Rxg8 gives White an Exchange for a pawn, but he stands much worse. The protected passer on e3 is ample compensation for the sacrificed material, and even queen trades—say after 28. Rab1 Qb4 although 28. ... Nd4 may even be stronger—favor Black.

23. cxd5 Qxd5 24. Nd3 Qf5

With a knight for three pawns, the evaluation is murky. White must act quickly or see the pawns start rolling and become overwhelming. A vital component of this position is that Black can't castle. This means that Jeffery had to move his king once more to connect his rooks, in which time Rapport seizes the initiative.

25. Qd1 Ke7 26. Qb3



26. ... Rhd8

The courageous 26. ... Kf6! deserves serious attention. The king finds refuge on an advanced square from which it can later tuck itself back on g7. Importantly, it can't be checked by the white queen.

27. Rfc1 Rac8 28. Rc4?!

This move is inaccurate. Now was the time for Rapport to take a hanging pawn.

Better was 28. Qa3+ Kf6 29. Qxa6 when Black has no clear way to punish White's greed. Jeffery would have faced an uphill battle for equality.

28. ... b5 29. Rc2 Kf8 30. Rac1

The move was 30. Qb4+ looks to win the d4 pawn, but fails to 30. ... Ke8 (Not 30. ... Kg8? 31. Rxc8 Rxc8 32. Qxd4 when ... Rd8 is no longer an option) 31. Rxc8 Rxc8 32. Qxd4? Rd8.

30. ... e5 31. h3

Swapping all of the major pieces leads to a position where progress for both sides should be impossible with best play, but such an ending is worth several Naroditsky endgame columns: 31. Rxc8 Rxc8 32. Rxc8+ Qxc8 33. Qd5 Qc2 34. Qc5+ Qxc5 35. Nxc5 Ke7 36. Nxa6 d3 37. Kf1 Kd6 38. Nb4 d2 39. Ke2 Kc5.

31. ... Rxc2 32. Rxc2 Kg7 33. Rc7 Re8 34. Qd5 Re6



Nearing the second time control, Jeffery's stubborn defense pays dividends. Rapport, still searching for a win, went for the materialistic ...

35. Nxf4

Tempted by a "free" pawn, Rapport takes a bite from the forbidden fruit. The quality of Black's passers are now more important than their quantity.

The try 35. h4 apparently is the move that engines support. It's nearly impossible for a player in time trouble to even consider this move, but I believe its main purpose is to prevent any ideas with ... Qg5 and, more simply, to pass the move to Black; The continuation 35. Qe4 Qxe4 36. fxe4 Kg6 37. Rc5 f6 leads to one of the most unique endgames I've ever seen. White's knight blockades the passers, but Black's king might race to g3.

35. ... Rf6!

Jeffery reacts correctly to the knight sacrifice by ignoring it. Black is now playing for a win, so letting Rapport bail out was not in the plan.

The line 35. ... Qxf4 36. Qxe6 d3 37. Rxf7+ Qxf7 38. Qxe5+ Qf6 39. Qxe3 likely leads to a draw, though both sides must be careful in such an ending.

36. Ne2 d3 37. Nc3

Rapport misses his last opportunity to hold the balance with this crazy line: 37. Ng3 Qg5 38. Ne4 e2 39. Kf2 Qh4+ 40. g3 Qxh3 41. Rc1 Qf1+! 42. Rxf1 Rxf3+! 43. Kxf3 exf1=Q+ 44. Nf2 Qe2+ 45. Kg2 Qxb2.

37. ... Rg6

With two passed pawns, a safe king, and an active rook, White has run out of chances to survive.

38. Re7 b4 39. Nb1 e2 40. Qxe5+

White's king can't provide any assistance: 40. Kf2 Rxg2+; Meanwhile, capturing with the rook loses the queen: 40. Rxe5 e1=Q+ 41. Rxe1 Qxd5.

40. ... Qxe5 41. Rxe5 Rc6, White resigned.

Rapport resigned, since 42. Kf2 Rc1 43. Nd2 Rd1 is winning for Black. With this win, Jeffery cemented his status as one of the world's most promising talents. ♠

Books & Beyond

The new year brings changes to this column—including a new name—as we begin making occasional forays from the printed word to review significant digital products.

By **JOHN HARTMANN**

PRECIOUS FEW PLEASURES REMAIN FOR THE MODERN American air passenger. The lines are long. The seats are small. The snacks, if any, are very, very sad.

One consolation, at least for this weary, wordy traveler, is the interterminal magazine stand. With so many magazines in print, and with limits to what one can responsibly subscribe, it is a great comfort to pick an interesting-looking issue off the shelf and distract myself with it while airborne.

On a recent trip, I accidentally picked up the October 2018 issue of *Harper's* because I mistook the cover author, Will Self, for NPR's "enigmatologist" Will Shortz. Opening to the cover story, "The Printed Word in Peril: Reading, Writing, and the Tyranny of the Virtual," I was quickly disabused of my misconception.

Self's concern is debatable but simple. The literary novel is, by his account, becoming a "conservatory form" like easel painting or symphonic music, with BDDM—bidirectional digital media, or the apps and screens that link our devices to the cloud—being chiefly responsible for its demise. There does seem to be something to this phenomenon. After all, who has the *Sitzfleisch* to read *Middlemarch* when there is another game of Fortnite to play?

Whatever one may think of Self's points, it's easy to see how they might be relevant for chess players and publishers. Chess streamers boast thousands of viewers on Twitch and YouTube. The publishing landscape is tilting towards digital media and products—just have a look at the latest catalogue from US Chess Sales, where there are nearly as many pages devoted to software and videos as books!

This month we are renaming this column from "Looks at Books" to "Books and Beyond." Our focus will continue to be on printed chess literature, but we will also, from time to time, expand a bit to investigate new digital products and programs. In this month's column, we'll look at two of the most interesting non-book releases in recent months: the

granddaddy of all chess software, ChessBase, and Chessable, the new kid on the block.

ChessBase is the leading chess software manufacturer in the world, and its market share among the chess elite reaches monopoly status. Almost every leading player uses its products, especially its flagship program, the eponymous database manager ChessBase, newly released in its 15th edition.

The core functions of ChessBase all revolve around data management. Users can collect, maintain, and search vast collections of games to study

openings, middlegame structures, and typical endings with plug-in engines like Fritz, Komodo, or Stockfish. Many of these core functions have been fairly mature since, say, ChessBase 7. So why would anyone need a newer version?

ChessBase had for some time answered this question with two words: the Cloud. Beginning with ChessBase 11, users could access online game databases from within the GUI (graphical user interface). In ChessBase 12 the "Let's Check" feature from Fritz 13 was ported over, remote access to engines via the "Engine Cloud" was introduced, and new analysis and search functions appeared. With ChessBase 13 the "ChessBase Cloud" was born, allowing

users to store and share data on ChessBase's servers, and taking initial steps towards integrating ChessBase web account features into the program.

ChessBase's authors returned their focus to in-program innovation with ChessBase 14. "Tactical analysis"—automated engine analysis of specific games, previously available only in the Fritz interface—was introduced, as was assisted analysis, which provided tactical tips via the color-coding of possible moves. The way that games were saved changed, so that what was two functions—save and replace—became one unified process.

ChessBase's newest edition, ChessBase 15, continues in this vein, offering an impressive list of new features and tweaks that refresh the





venerable program. Among the most important of these is “replay training,” revamping training features to make them more interactive.

When the Training tab is activated, ChessBase keeps track of user accuracy in predicting moves, and an internal engine—a modified version of Ginkgo—assesses their relative strength. That same internal engine operates in “Instant Analysis,” a feature where games are very quickly analyzed upon loading, with each move’s evaluation appearing in a bar graph below the notation window.

Search functions are also improved in ChessBase 15. There is a simplified, “one-line” search for quick queries, and a number of new and upgraded search types are possible, including resulting endgame probabilities and plan explorers for specific positions.

My favorite new feature, however, is introduction of a tactical search mask. Users can now search databases for specific tactical themes, ranging from double attacks to overworked pieces to back rank weaknesses. The results are not perfect—every double attack is found through this search, even banal ones—but mining data for interesting tactics has never been easier.

One of ChessBase’s strengths is its ability to continue to innovate so far into its lifespan. Some changes, like the move towards the Cloud, are fairly organic, arising from broader technological advances. Others appear to be direct responses to competitors’ products, such as the new training tab in ChessBase 15, which has clear antecedents in openings trainers like Chess Position Trainer, ChessBase’s own Cloud Opening Trainer, and, most recently, Chessable.

Chessable is a new website/“webservice” gaining quite a bit of mindshare with tech-savvy players. Part of this has to do with its association with IM John Bartholomew, one of chess’ leading streaming personalities, who also serves as Chessable’s Chief Communications Officer and co-founder. Bartholomew is a big draw in the streaming/e-sport landscape and his involvement with the platform has undoubtedly aided in its rise to prominence.

The real selling point for Chessable, however, comes in its claims about the scientific basis of its product. Chessable combines the concept of spaced repetition—the repeating of learned material across increasingly wide intervals of time—with gamification features to create an effective and “sticky” form of chess learning. Instead of using low-tech flashcards, users train their knowledge of opening lines, tactics, and endgames on the website, receiving nudges and rewards for returning each day.

The Chessable interface (“MoveTrainer”) is simple and attractive. From the main menu, users can choose to “review” or “learn” material in courses they own. “Learn” takes users to the next new position in the course, where they can replay read-only lines or solve new problems. “Review” runs users through material they have already studied, using spaced repetition to emphasize moves and positions incorrectly solved.

Chessable was originally designed as an openings trainer, and it’s easy

to see how a spaced repetition model of learning might be attractive in that context. Users can study an opening variation through a Chessable-produced course, with both free and paid content available, and they can also create their own courses by manually inputting variations or uploading .pgn files. The platform also allows for the study of tactics and endgames, both of which also lend themselves to a spaced-repetition approach.

Chessable is free to use, albeit with two important caveats. Some features of the MoveTrainer interface are only available for paid or Pro users. Among these features are auto-tagging moves or positions that are solved incorrectly, allowing for the study of “difficult moves,” access to advanced study and replay settings, and use of a full-depth opening explorer. Some courses, as mentioned above, are also paywalled.

Which of these tools should you consider buying? For me, ChessBase is the rare product that lives up to its advertising. If you are a real student of the game, and you are not using ChessBase, you are short-changing yourself.

The real question comes for those who are already using ChessBase.



Is it worth upgrading to 15? For those using ChessBase 12, my sense was that updating to versions 13 or 14 was not entirely necessary, but the weight of the cumulative improvements in ChessBase 15 may alter this recommendation. The auto-analysis features in 14 and 15 are useful, the integration of Cloud and web features is ever-tightening, and search enhancements are truly impressive. ChessBase 15 introduces a new, backward-compatible database booster that speeds all manners of searches, and the tactical search is a show-stopper. ChessBase is a mature, best-of-class product, and I cannot imagine seriously studying chess without it.

I have to admit my skepticism about Chessable when I first started using the site, and there are still some user interface quirks that I could do without. As time passed, however, I began to see why its users are so rabidly attached to it.

The gamification features help to inculcate a strong study habit in users, and while spaced repetition may not be the panacea that Chessable claims it to be, it is indisputably useful to review material in a structured way. Newcomers may want to try a free course—the “Short and Sweet: The London System” and “Olympiad Tactics 2018” titles come to mind—to see if the platform speaks to their needs.👉

ChessBase 15: See www.uscfsales.com for the many combination packages.
Chessable: See www.chessable.com.

PHOTO, LEFT: CHESSABLE CAN INTERFACE WITH MOBILE PHONES AND PADS; PHOTOS, THIS PAGE: ABOVE LEFT, AN EXAMPLE OF A CHESSABLE PROBLEM; ABOVE RIGHT, CHESSBASE’S REPLAY TRAINING.

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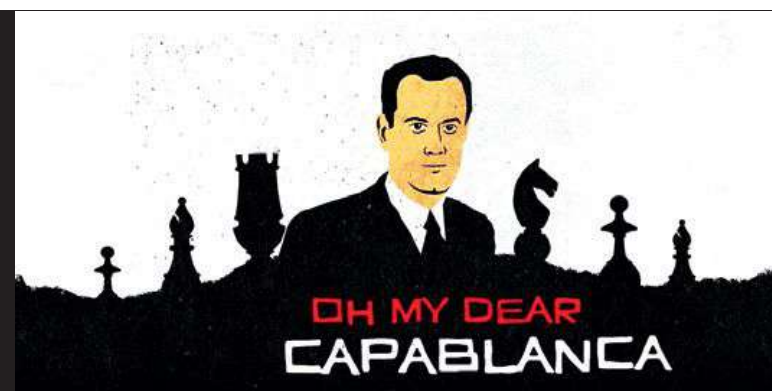
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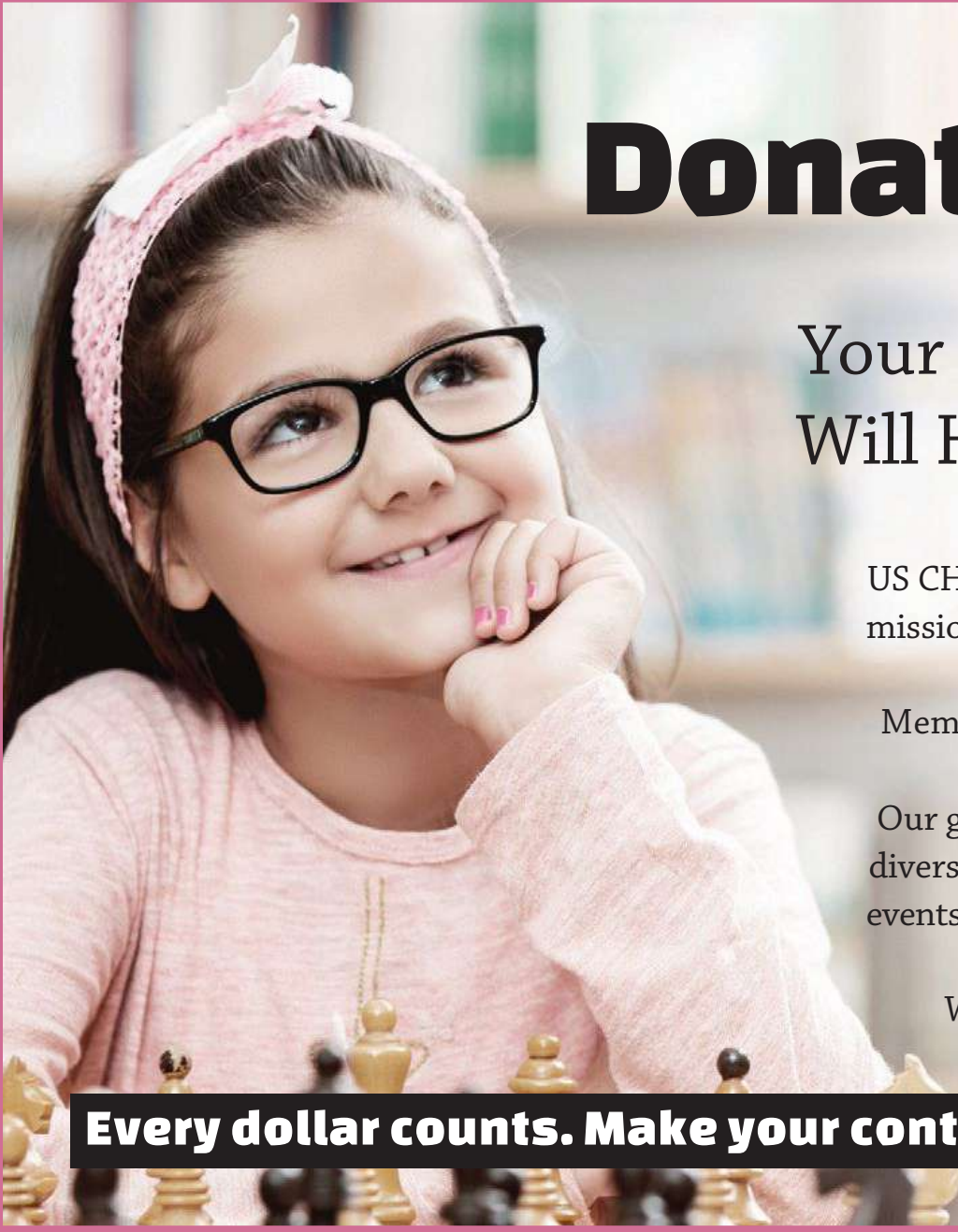
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ON THE SHORE



China nabs historic double gold at the 43rd Chess Olympiad, while the U.S. team takes silver on tiebreaks and the women's team makes a splash.

By **GM MAURICE ASHLEY**

“It’s an honor to actually play in the Olympiad ... the opening ceremony ... meeting other people ... For me, (It’s) the biggest event that I know. It’s ultimately the one that I always look forward to.”

~ ANDREW KAYONDE, ZAMBIA

The 43rd Chess Olympiad, held from September 23rd through October 6th in lovely Batumi, Georgia on the shores of the Black Sea, contained all the drama, political intrigue, and exciting chess

that the tournament is known for. This spectacular festival once again lived up to its biennial reputation as a major showcase event. Teams from over 180 countries—some of which included nine of the top 10 players on the planet—came to vie for a bevy of team and individual medals. In the end, the hunt for top honors did not disappoint, but not before the tournament took the numerous twists and turns, upsets and brilliancies, backstories and romance (and of course a bit of controversy), that seems to be run of the mill for the greatest chess show on Earth.

S OF BATUMI

PHOTO: AUSTIN FULLER; COURTESY OF SAINT LOUIS CHESS CLUB



THE 2016 POWERHOUSE OLYMPIAD TEAM REUNITED FOR 2018. LEFT TO RIGHT: TEAM CAPTAIN IM JOHN DONALDSON, GM HIKARU NAKAMURA, GM FABIANO CARUANA, GM SAM SHANKLAND, GM WESLEY SO, AND GM RAY ROBSON.

A GRAND OPENING

The excitement began for me even before I had arrived. Due to my flight being delayed in New York, I found myself racing through the gargantuan Istanbul airport, carry-on bag and backpack in tow, in a frantic effort to make my connecting flight. I breathlessly arrived with seconds to spare, but was unable to convince the gate attendant to hold up the transfer bus for my fellow travelers who were not far behind.

Upon landing in Batumi, I made my way to the Sputnik hotel, where I

would be staying with the young team from Madagascar that I was to represent as captain/coach. As in the previous Olympiad in Baku, I had decided to help provide guidance to another African team, as my two trips to the continent had shown me that many teams there lack the resources of much wealthier nations. I was optimistic about my choice of Madagascar since my visit in 2016 had shown me that they had a solid chess culture headed by Federation President Yves Rakotomaharo, whose talented 19 year-old son Fy had already achieved the international master title. With



GM SAM SHANKLAND (LEFT) FACED GM KRISHNAN SASIKIRAN OF INDIA IN ROUND FOUR. THE GAME ENDED IN A DRAW.

three players under 20, we had no pretenses of competing for the top medals, but the experience of rubbing shoulders with the best players in the world is the kind of motivation that can never be underestimated.

Unfortunately, I had arrived too late for the opening ceremony, a fact that I was constantly reminded of by the awe-struck viewers who had the privilege of witnessing it. Given the superb level of organization of the previous Olympiad in Baku, the Georgians were dead set on impressing their international visitors right out of the gate. They did that and more (See the YouTube video by searching for “Festive Opening Ceremony of the 2018 Batumi Chess Olympiad”) as chess history and Georgian culture were artistically displayed in all their splendor.

The moment I walked into the playing hall for the start of round one, I was reminded again of the feelings I had in Baku. The first thing I noticed were the multiple flags lining the sides of the two gigantic playing halls, an instant reminder that this was indeed an Olympic event. The players themselves represented the wonderful variety of the human family from all races, creeds, and cultures, in many cases magnificently attired in the full sartorial splendor of their home countries. Many were seeing each other for the first time since the last Olympiad and exchanged greetings with the joy of recognition usually reserved for class reunions of old friends from high school. Additionally, the near 50-50 male to female ratio, with most of the top female grandmasters in attendance,

made it clear how much our game transcends all barriers—and how far we still have to go to achieve real parity.

Despite the auspicious beginning, the first round of the tournament had its moments of chaos. The organizers were naturally serious about enforcing strict security measures—anything that resembled an electronic device had to be checked at the door—but they had not been quite prepared for the crush of players, captains, and journalists eagerly attempting to get inside. This led to painfully long lines at the security checkpoint, a situation that snagged the gold-medal defending U.S. team, who, despite having arrived early, were still caught waiting outside in the hot sun after the round had begun. GM Alejandro Ramirez, standing next to me inside the tournament hall and normally the picture of cool, kept glancing up with concern as we watched the minutes tick by, since none of us inside knew what was transpiring. My heart was in my throat! With but minutes to spare, the quartet of GMs Wesley So, Hikaru Nakamura, Sam Shankland, and Ray Robson, clad in handsome sky-blue blazers, rushed into the hall with looks of exasperation mixed with intense focus, along with the ever-stoic captain IM John Donaldson. It’s not hard to imagine something going terribly wrong after such an ordeal, but even minus the resting GM Fabiano Caruana they promptly demolished the massively outgunned Panamanians 4-nil, with Nakamura providing the following fantastic finish:

SQUELCHED FANTASIES

IM Jorge Baules (FIDE 2358, PAN)
GM Hikaru Nakamura (FIDE 2763, USA)
43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (1),
Batumi, Georgia, 09.24.2018



AFTER 22. Rd7

Despite being two pawns down, White is looking for counterplay due to having more active pieces. Black squelches all White's fantasies with a nasty double sacrifice:

22. ... Rcd8! 23. Rxe7 Rd1+ 24. Kg2 Nh4+ 25. Kh1 Qe1!

White resigned since 26. Bf1 Qxf1 would seal the deal.

High security was also in place for another good reason. The President of Georgia, Giorgi Margvelashvili, established the importance of the event to his country by making the first move for Georgia 1, which was headed by the inimitable GM Baadur Jobava. Imagine the number of intense-looking bodyguards in the playing hall, a situation that added to the tension of the moment as players tried to focus on their games. This proved to be a non-issue on most tables, where the higher-seeded team copied the U.S. script and mostly dominated with complete wipeouts. However, there were a few notable individual upsets, the prime one being Moroccan Candidate Master Mohamed-Mehdi Aithmidou's shocking victory over China's GM Chao Li, who at 2708 was rated almost 500 points higher than his euphoric opponent. Even my little team, ranked 101st, managed to steal two draws against the 12th ranked Hungarians, who rested GM Peter Leko and still fielded a 2678 on board four! The following tactical slugfest illustrates the talent to be found in all corners of the globe.

PIRC DEFENSE (B07)

GM Ferenc Berkes (FIDE 2678, HUN)
CM Faniry Rajaonarison (FIDE 2126, MAD)
43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (1),
Batumi, Georgia, 09.24.2018

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 O-O 5. O-O d6 6. Nc3 Nbd7 7. e4 e5 8. Re1 c6 9. a4 Qc7 10. h3 Rd8 11. Be3 Nf8 12. Qd2 Bd7 13. Rad1 Ne6 14. Bh6 Bh8 15. Qe3



THE TEAM WAS ABLY LED BY CAPTAIN IM JOHN DONALDSON (LEFT) AND COACH GM ALEX LENDERMAN.



Qa5 16. Qd2 Qc7 17. Qe3 Qa5

White has emerged from the opening with a clear spatial edge, but his last few moves betray his uncertainty about how to proceed. As team captain watching this repetition, a draw did not seem like the worst result in the world. Little did I know the roller coaster ride I would go on for another 43 moves!

18. g4

White finally decides to throw down the gauntlet. As I sat analyzing this new development, I noticed what looked like a brilliant sequence for Black. The more I looked, the more I liked it. But would my young candidate master see the possibility? I walked away excited, and returned several minutes later to see Faniry still deep in thought. I paced back and forth, walked away, returned again, and then finally, after about 20 minutes of deep calculation and assessment, his fingers rose—and the fan got dirty!

18. ... exd4 19. Nxd4 Nxd4 20. Rxd4 Bxg4!?!

Cheese and crackers, Ma! Obviously, the sacrifice cannot be accepted because 21. hxg4 Nxg4 22. Qd2 Nxh6 and the rook on d4 is hanging. When I saw Berkes' eyes go wide, I couldn't help but wonder if we weren't about to see the biggest round one upset of the Olympiad. But 2670s die hard!

21. e5!?

Both my young charge and I had missed this riposte. The move simultaneously shuts down the long diagonal, opens the d-file and clears the fourth rank. A Swiss Army knife would be envious! So why doesn't the move get showered with gold coins? For one, despite all the flowery words, it objectively brings White only a solid pull. And secondly, the silicon beast points out the more cunning 21. Qd2!, which we all missed!



ANALYSIS AFTER 21. Qd2!

Now Black has to scramble with 21. ... Qh5! (Retreating with 21. ... Be6? gets hammered by 22. Nd5!) 22. e5! Bxh3 23. exf6 Bxf6 24. Rd3 Bxg2 25. Kxg2 d5 26. Qf4 when White's active pieces seem to outweigh Black's three pawns.

21. ... dxe5 22. Rxd8+?

White can be forgiven for playing this natural move. At the time, I was trying hard to evaluate 22. Rxg4! Nxg4 23. hxg4. White has a bishop and knight versus a rook and two pawns, but

the black kingside is going to experience severe pressure when White's knight and queen arrive. The engine likes White and is even willing to sacrifice the entire queenside for the attack, but that's easy to say when you can see millions of positions per second!

22. ... Rxd8 23. hxc4 Nxc4 24. Qh3 Nxe6 25. Qxe6 f5

Black's move is okay for dynamic equality, but I was rooting for 25. ... Qb4! when Black forcibly takes over the initiative. After the game, Faniry said he saw the move but was worried about 26. Re4 Qxb2 27. Rh4, but 27. ... Bg7! 28. Qxe7+ Kf8 leaves White's hand stuck in the cookie jar. After the move in the game, White gets time to mobilize his extra piece, but the sharp balance is maintained throughout.

26. Qh4 Qc7 27. Rd1 Rxd1+ 28. Nxd1 e4 29. c3 Qd6 30. Ne3 Bf6 31. Qh3 b6 32. Bf1 Be7 33. Qh6 Qf6 34. Bc4+ Kh8 35. Kf1 Bf8 36. Qh3 Bc5 37. b4!?

A risky attempt to try to win, partially influenced by the rating of the opponent.

38. ... Bf8 38. b5 cxb5 39. axb5 Qxc3 40. Qg3 Bc5 41. Qc7 h5! 42. Qxa7 Bxe3 43. Qf7 Qg7 44. Qe8+ Kh7 45. fxe3 Qc3 46. Qf7+ Kh6 47. Qf8+ Kg5 48. Qd8+ Kh6 49. Qd4 Qxd4 50. exd4 g5 51. d5 Kg7 52. d6 Kf6 53. Bd5 h4 54. d7 Ke7 55. Be6 f4 56. Bg4 Kd8 57. Kg2 e3 58. Kf3 Ke7 59. Bh3 Kd8 60. Bg4, Draw agreed.

Round two appropriately saw two big surprises. The first one occurred when Indian journalist Niklesh Jain proposed to his girlfriend Angela Franco Valencia of Colombia in the tournament hall just before the round. It was all caught on camera (everything is these days), and the happy couple provided a pleasant distraction for those nearby as well as those who heard about it afterwards.

However, what was good news for one lucky lady in the round was not good for four others, as the top seeded Russian women, fielding a team of three 2500+ grandmasters, were stunned by underdog Uzbekistan, with only one player rated over 2300! That sent shock waves throughout the playing hall as favorites everywhere were quickly reminded that upsets can and do happen in the Olympiad all the time. It was an early harsh blow to the Russian ladies, who had failed to medal in Baku despite having won gold three times in a row previously.

The giant killing didn't stop there. Two rounds later, it was the Russian men, with GM Vladimir Kramnik on board three (!), who tasted bitter defeat against the upstart Polish team. It must have been a feeling of déjà vu all over again as Russia has been snake-bit since winning gold in Bled 2002 when Kasparov still played for the team.

Things didn't go badly for all the favorites however. World Championship candidate Fabiano Caruana, shrugging off all the whispers about his decision to play in the Olympiad just six weeks before his highly-anticipated match against Magnus Carlsen (who had conspicuously avoided the event), crisply defeated former World Champion Viswanathan Anand to keep the USA tied for first.

OPEN CATALAN (E03)

GM Fabiano Caruana (FIDE 2827, USA)
GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2771, IND)
43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (4),
Batumi, Georgia, 09.27.2018

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5 4. Bg2 dxc4 5. Qa4+ Nbd7 6. Qxc4 a6 7. Be3

Pre-game preparation that White had in mind for the Sinquefeld Cup, but got to spring it here.

7. ... Bd6 8. Qc2 O-O 9. Nh3

Moves that separate the great ones. The knight leaves the long diagonal clear with the knowledge that it will get to the good f4 post at some point.

9. ... e5 10. O-O h6 11. dxe5 Nxe5 12. Nc3 Qe7 13. Rad1 Re8

Such a natural move is very hard to criticize, but it was certainly worth considering 13. ... Ng6, preventing White's knight from joining the party so easily.

14. Nf4 c6 15. Bd4 g5

White's already well coordinated, and this move gives him a hook to sink his teeth into. Caruana felt it was the most forcing move, since passive moves like 15. ... Rb8 give White the chance to improve slowly but surely.

16. Nd3 Nxd3?! 17. Rxd3! Be5

The continuation 17. ... Bf5 18. Bxf6! Qxf6 19. Rxd6! was likely missed by Anand.

18. Qd2 Bf5 19. e4 Bg6 20. f4! gxf4 21. Bxe5! Qxe5 22. gxf4 Qc5+ 23. Kh1

White dominates the center and the d-file and only needs to play 24. Rd4 to begin marching the pawns forward to deadly effect.

23. ... Nxe4 24. Nxe4 Rxe4

No better is 24. ... Bxe4 25. Bxe4 Rxe4 26. Qg2+.

25. Rg3! Rd4 26. Qe3, Black resigned.

He gave up since 26. ... Kh7 27. f5 Bxf5 28. Rxf5 is lost.

If round four contained mild shocks, round five saw miniature earthquakes shake up all the standings. The first notable result was Caruana

and company being held to a tie by Israel when Caruana's fine checkmating finish against GM Boris Gelfand was counterbalanced by GM Sam Shankland's loss in a rook and pawn ending against GM Emil Sutovsky. While the USA may have been smarting over that result, imagine the incredulity of the stunned Chinese team as they were wiped off the table 3-1 by the 15th-seeded Czechs. The Polish team also continued their magical run by taking down France by the same 3-1 score, despite their star GM Jan-Krzysztof Duda losing to GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave on board one. With Azerbaijan winning a grudge match against Armenia and Baku's silver medalist Ukraine winning as well, the top of the tournament table going into the rest day featured three teams (other than the Ukraine) who throughout history shared only one gold medal between them, and that one being Poland's victory in 1930!

The Women's section also saw a few snowflakes in September. The reigning champion Chinese team, headed by World Champion GM Wenjun Ju, could only break even against 12th-seeded Armenia, while the much acclaimed Muzychuk sisters, Anna and Mariya, leading the Ukraine were unable to overcome the solid and inspired ladies of Georgia. While the legendary Maya Chiburdanidze, Nona Gaprindashvili, and Nana Ioseliani were being feted in the playing halls and the media, the Georgian women, seeded fourth, knew that the eyes of their nation were eagerly hoping that they could revive the magic of old when they were once the team to beat. In fact, since 1992, only four ladies' teams had tasted gold (China-5, Georgia-4, Russia-3, Ukraine-1).

That made it all the more surprising that the sole leader after round five, with a perfect 5 out of 5, were none of these teams, but rather the somewhat unlikely 10th seed from the USA. Captained by the effervescent GM Melikset Khachiyan and ably assisted by GM Robert Hess, the team had showed grit and determination in winning some games that looked like they could have gone either way. IM Anna Zatonskih, GM Irina Krush, and reserve board FM Jennifer Yu (added at the last minute when U.S. Women's champion Nazi Paikidze declined to play) had all won four out of their first five games. With her fine form on full display, young Jennifer had quickly made the case that she should be playing every round ahead of WGMs Tatev Abrahamyan or Sabina-Francesca Foisor. It was a testament to the spirit of the team that the veterans agreed and cheered her on with gusto. I was also informed by Melik that I had to show up near the beginning of every round (before running back to be with my team) because I was apparently a good luck charm. Later, I found out that I wasn't the only one he was telling this to.

PARTIES AND POLITICS

It would be safe to steal Las Vegas' slogan and say that "Whatever happens at the Bermuda Party, stays at the Bermuda Party!" After five days of intense concentration, the opportunity to let loose and party with the planet's elite players from every country represents one of the highlights of any Olympiad. The nightclub was literally within a stone's throw from the beach, so players would wander back and forth from the dance floor to the rocky shoreline. A sudden heavy downpour forced everyone back inside where I would bet the legal limit of human bodies was easily surpassed. At one point, I actually found myself playing bodyguard for Caruana as fans and well-wishers bombarded him for selfies wherever he turned. Eventually, I had to leave the megastar to his own devices as the throbbing music and wild revelry forced my feet and hips to start moving. If I avoid giving details of the rest of the night—well, let's just say every adult chess fan should visit a Bermuda Party at least once in their lives.

The festivities were not simply restricted that one evening. Control of FIDE was destined to change hands with 23-year incumbent Kirsan Ilyumzhinov forced off the ballot. Representing the old order was his long-time Deputy IM Georgios Makropoulos, who, rightly or wrongly, suffered in many eyes from the sin of guilt by association. Running

against him was Arkady Dvorkovich, a former Deputy Prime Minister of Russia as well as former World Championship candidate Nigel Short, who had been an ardent critic of FIDE for decades.

Politics is not my cup of tea, but it was hard to avoid all the post-round parties where sumptuous food, free alcohol, live music, and general merrymaking abounded. One party I attended featured five or six mermaids frolicking in a pool (I kid you not: I have the video). Very few players were ever in sight, and I soon found out why: one official came up to me all smiles, seeking my endorsement, and brusquely turned and walked away when he found out I was apolitical. The entire leadership structure of international chess was up for grabs, and those who wanted a piece of the pie had to be ruthlessly efficient with whom they spent their time.

After a picture-perfect rest day where many players took in the various sights Batumi had to offer, it was time to get back to playing chess. The Polish team continued to be the story of the event by knocking off higher-seeded Ukraine after Duda crushed GM Vassily Ivanchuk in the match-up's lone decisive game. With Azerbaijan defeating the Czech Republic, only two perfect scores remained. This proved to be the case in both sections, as the U.S. women saw their winning streak come to an end with a tie against India in a match where all four boards were decisive. Irina Krush put on a grandmaster endgame clinic to make it five wins in a row in what she believes was her best game of the tournament.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED, CLASSICAL VARIATION (D61)

GM Irina Krush (FIDE 2423, USA)

GM Dronavalli Harika (FIDE 2500, IND)

43rd World Women Chess Olympiad 2018
(6), Batumi, Georgia, 09.30.2018

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Nbd7 5. Nc3 h6 6. Bh4 Be7 7. e3 O-O 8. Qc2 c5 9. dxc5 Nxc5 10. cxd5 Nxd5 11. Bxe7 Qxe7 12. Nxd5 exd5

The creation of an isolated pawn does not promise much for White, but Black must be careful not to slowly drift into a purely defensive posture.

13. Be2 Bg4?!

Already heading the wrong way. The setup with 13. ... Be6 14. O-O Rac8 and keeping the knight on the c5-e4-f6 track was both more solid and active.

14. O-O Rac8 15. Nd4 Ne6 16. Qd2 Bxe2 17. Nxe2 Rfd8 18. Rac1 Rc4 19. Rfd1 Qg5 20. Rc3 Rxc3 21. Qxc3 Qg4 22. Qd2 Qc4 23. a3 Qb3 24. h3 a6 25. Qc1 Rd6 26. Rd2 Rd8?

Passive posturing that only helps White. Much better was 26. ... Rc6! 27. Qb1 (27. Nc3 Rd6 with 28. ... d4 looming) 27. ... g6 when Black holds the balance.

27. Nd4 Qb6 28. Qc3

In the space of two moves, Black has been thrown back into pure defense with only slow painful suffering in sight.

28. ... Qc7 29. Qxc7 Nxc7 30. Rc2 Rd7 31. Kf1 Kf8 32. Ke2 g6 33. Nb3! Ne6 34. Nc5!

Perfect timing to trade off the knights as Black will be unable to prevent White's king from arriving on d4.

35. ... Nxc5 35. Rxc5 Ke7

There is no solace after 35. ... d4 36. e4! and the d-pawn is doomed.

36. Kd3 h5 37. h4 Ke6 38. Kd4



White has been dreaming about this ending ever since move 12. Black is helpless.

38. ... b6 39. Rc6+ Rd6 40. Rc7 a5 41. b4 axb4 42. axb4 Rd8

The last active try was 42. ... b5 when White should avoid 43. Rc5 Ra6! with some annoying counterplay. Instead 43. Rc2! Rd8 (43. ... Ra6 44. Kc5) 44. Rc6+ Rd6 45. Kc5 is decisive.

43. b5! Rd6 44. Rb7 Kf6 45. f3 Ke6 46. g4! Kf6 47. g5+ Ke6 48. f4! Kf5

Black is completely tied up. There was no hope after 48. ... f6 49. Rg7 Kf5 50. Rf7.

49. Rxf7+ Kg4 50. Rf6 Rd8 51. Rxc6 Kxh4 52. Rxb6 Kg4 53. Rh6 h4 54. b6 h3 55. b7

Rb8 56. Rh7 Kf5 57. Kxd5, Black resigned.

A beaming Irina chimed afterwards, "I'm probably playing better than I've played in a long time, and somehow it's working out."

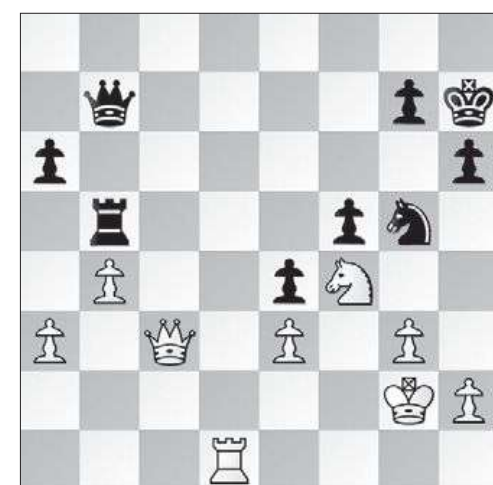
However, things didn't work out for the team the following round against Armenia when Irina could only draw and both Zatonskih and Foisor lost. The lone bright spot was Jennifer Yu's continued excellence, as evidenced by the following brutal takedown that she sprang on Black with tiger-like quickness and ferocity:

A BRUTAL TAKEDOWN

FM Jennifer Yu (FIDE 2268, USA)

WGM Maria Kursova (FIDE 2289, ARM)

43rd World Women Chess Olympiad 2018
(7), Batumi, Georgia, 10.01.2018



AFTER 40. ... Ng5

41. h4! Nf3

Black had to acquiesce to the much worse endgame after 41. ... Nf7 42. Ne6 Re5 43. Qc7!

A PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

*GM Sam Shankland
appraises his
Olympiad performance.*



FOR MY THIRD OLYMPIAD PLAYING FOR TEAM USA, I came in with much higher expectations for myself than in the previous editions. As a newly minted 2700+ player, I was fully aware that I would have a target on my back as the most beatable guy on the team. This left me feeling quite ambitious, knowing that even though I was the highest-rated board four in the tournament, people would likely

still be gunning for me. Or so I thought ...

After round one's victory over Panama (including my win as white against FM Orlando Leon), round two got off to a rough start for me, as I took too many risks playing black. A much lower-rated player, FM Nikoloz Petriashvili from Georgia, chose an extremely drawish variation. I probably should have been an adult and not rocked the boat, but

(43. Rd7? Qb5! 44. Qb2 Rxe6 45. Rxf7 Rg6 holds) 43. ... Qxc7 (Even worse is 43. ... Qb5 44. Nf4!! Qe8 45. Rd7 Kg8 46. Rxf7 Qxf7 47. Qxe5.) 44. Nxc7.

42. Ne6 Kg6

The natural 42. ... Ne5 gets fried by 43. Rd7!! Nor does 42. ... Re5 help after 43. Rd7! Qb8 44. Rxg7+ Kh8 45. Rd7!

43. Rd6 Qe7 44. h5+! Kxh5

44. ... Kh7 45. Rd7!.

45. Nf4+ Kg4 46. Rg6+ Ng5 47. Qc2, Black resigned.

Meanwhile, the U.S. men had gone back to their winning ways, having breezed past Bosnia

& Herzegovina 3½-½ in round six and by defeating Croatia in round seven, with Shankland giving himself a birthday victory present and Wesley So's showing his gold medal form from two years prior:

SICILIAN DEFENSE, NAJDORF VARIATION (B92)

GM Wesley So (FIDE 2776, USA)

GM Marin Bosiocic (FIDE 2600, CRO)

43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (7),
Batumi, Georgia, 10.01.2018

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6
5. Nc3 a6 6. Be3 e5 7. Nb3 Be6 8. Be2
Be7 9. h4

Once upon a time, an early g4 by White was

considered premature until its practitioners played it successfully in almost every Sicilian. Now it's the h-pawn's turn in the limelight as the surprise move of the moment. This novelty seems extravagant to my eyes, but with a powerful enough computer it's possible to justify just about any move that's not a blunder. In other words, this will have to be tested a few times before anyone really knows what's going on.

9. ... h5

The shock value hits Black right between the eyes. Seeing such a move for the first time and knowing that your opponent has prepared against natural responses terrifies even the best players. I would argue that the biggest challenge to White's strange novelty lies in 9. ... 0-0 when 10. h5 h6 or 10. g4 d5 seems well called for.

I couldn't stomach the idea that I'd be shaking hands after an hour, so I did something a bit dubious instead. Essentially, I fell for the oldest trick in the book—one that young players often try against higher-rated opponents. Luckily, I was able to survive with a draw.

After a lucky win in round three against GM Jorden Van Foreest of the Netherlands and a solid draw with black against GM Krishnan Sasikiran of India in round four, I was settling in to my role and holding my own as the team cruised to a 4-0 start, capped with fine victories over the Netherlands and India.

But I let my team down for the first time in round five. I've lived in the United States my whole life; it's the country I love, and I grew into the player and person I am today in the United States. This makes it especially painful to lose when I'm playing for my flag as well as my name. But looking back, there was a clear lesson to be learned from my misfortunes.

I lost a rook endgame to GM Emil Sutovsky of Israel that looked like a very easy draw. In fact, it was an easy draw, but "very easy" was too strong an assessment. Even with plenty of time on my clock, I still needed to be somewhat careful. But I got careless, thinking I was just counting down to move 30. A couple of mistakes was all it took, and to Emil's credit, he found a brilliant winning plan at the end of the game. The key takeaway point: never relax until the game is over, no matter how trivial the position may seem!

I recovered nicely after sitting out round six, winning round seven against Croatia on my birthday and then collecting my first 2700 scalp of the tournament in round eight with a critical win over GM Rauf Mamedov, which helped the U.S. defeat Azerbaijan and take the clear lead. But disaster really struck in round nine. All four players on the team left a half point on the table, and Team USA lost its first match of the tournament to Poland with the Cerberus lineup we had acquired between 2014 and 2016. My own game was especially painful. I offered an inspired queen sacrifice to GM Jacek Tomczak as early as move eight,

played quite a good game, and messed up a routinely winning rook ending. I thought anything won, but I missed a key defensive plan.

I bounced back the next day, manning board three for the first time since round two and won a fine game with black against GM Hrant Melkumyan that turned out to be the only decisive result in our 2½-1½ win over Armenia. This set us up for a final round match with China.

We were tied for first going into the round, and the U.S. had slightly better tiebreaks. The match stayed mostly even throughout, with board three being the only one that strayed from equality, but the position liquidated soon enough, and four draws were registered. My own game was fast enough that I saw the ship sailing into the rock from the hotel bar. Most of our previous opponents had a bad final round, and China's opponents were playing well. So, China leapfrogged us in a big way: even though we were a bit ahead of them on tiebreaks before the final round, after the round, we were well behind.

I'm not dissatisfied with my play, or with a silver medal. I personally had a good event overall, gaining rating points despite playing six blacks in 10 games (with white in round one as well). Plus, tying for first never guarantees gold. Fortune smiled upon us in 2016 when we tied for first and won gold; she frowned upon us the second time around. While I would have liked to have seen a playoff, the Olympiads have never worked that way.

Still, while I can't complain about my play overall and I did my part to get the team where it ended up, I also can't help but wonder what might have been if I had played better in the game(s) with Sutovsky and/or Tomczak. Those were the rounds where the U.S. dropped match points, and in both cases, I had it within my power to alter the result. As I mentioned, if you want to be sure to get the gold medal, you need to take clear first. Better play on my part would have done the job, and I'm hopeful that I'll be able to bring higher quality chess in 2020, starting with paying more attention in rook endings. They can be trickier than they look!

However, this is also probably barely the beginning of Wesley's analysis! The white pawn on h5 will cause Black both short and long-term grief.

10. Nd5 Bxd5 11. exd5 Nbd7 12. c4 g6

This has to be played sooner or later to shore up the poor h-pawn.

13. g3 b6 14. Nd2 a5 15. f4! Qc8?!

The beginning of Black's discoordination. For better or worse, Black should probably try the dangerous looking 15. ... exf4 16. gxf4 0-0, when 17. f5 Ne5 leads to wild play.

16. 0-0 Nc5 17. Kg2 Ra7? 18. Qc2 Bd8 19. f5!

While Black has been shuffling his pieces

around in an attempt to prepare some kind of defensive posture, White's direct play has been forceful and direct.

19. ... Rg8 20. fxg6 Rxd8

Black won't last long after 20. ... fxg6 21. Bxc5! bxc5 (21. ... Qxc5 22. Rxf6!) 22. Bd3 Rg7 23. Rf3.

21. Rf5 b5

Desperation.

22. Raf1 Rc7 23. Bxh5 Nxh5 24. Rxh5 Rg8 25. Qh7 Qg4 26. Rg5!

(see diagram next column)

26. ... Rxd8 27. Bxg5, Black resigned.



World-number-three GM Shakhriyar "Shakh" Mamedyarov and his red-hot Azeri team could not shake the Polish wonder boys, setting up an epic round eighth match-up against the USA. Things took a turn for the worse after So lost to GM Teimour Radjabov.

THE WOMEN’S TEAM BEGAN WITH AN IMPRESSIVE FIVE-ROUND WINNING STREAK

TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: IM ANNA ZATONSKIH, GM IRINA KRUSH; BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:
WGM SABINA-FRANCESCA FOISOR, WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN, FM JENNIFER YU



COACH GM ROBERT HESS (LEFT) AND CAPTAIN GM MELIKSET KHACHIYAN
WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE WOMEN’S TEAM STRONG SHOWING.



MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S TEAM POSE FOR OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER DAVID LLADA. THEIR CONFIDENT SMILES FORESHADOW THEIR 3-1 VICTORY OVER ITALY IN ROUND EIGHT.

However, Sam's win over GM Rauf Mamedov on board four compensated. Meanwhile on board one—featuring world numbers two and three—Caruana, playing white, stole a slight edge from equality, probed his opponent from every angle, got the mistake he needed, mercilessly increased the pressure, missed a startling knockout blow, turned the screws with some more deft maneuvering, flushed out the enemy king, danced his queen and rook back and forth, and then finally queen sacrifice, sleeper hold, good night! (see December's "The Practical Endgame" for more on this game.)

OPEN RUY LOPEZ (C83)

GM Fabiano Caruana (FIDE 2827, USA)
GM Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (FIDE 2820, AZE)
43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (8),
Batumi, Georgia, 10.02.2018

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Nxe4 6. d4 b5 7. Bb3 d5 8. dxe5 Be6 9. Nbd2 Nc5 10. c3 Be7 11. Bc2 d4 12. Nb3 d3 13. Bb1 Nxb3 14. axb3 Bf5 15. Be3 O-O 16. Bd4 Qd5 17. Re1 d2 18. Re2 Bxb1 19. Rxb1 Nxd4 20. Nxd4 Bg5 21. g3 c5 22. Nf5 Qd3 23. Nd6 Qg6 24. h4

Shakh, who was clearly ultra-prepared, instantly uncorked a novelty.

24. ... Bf4! N

24. ... Bh6 was Anand-Mamedyarov, St. Louis 2018 with a draw after 59 moves.

25. Ne4 f5 26. Nxd2 Rad8 27. Ra1 Rfe8 28. Qe1 Bxd2 29. Rxd2 Rxd2 30. Qxd2 Rxe5 31. Qd8+ Re8 32. Qd5+ Qe6 33. Rd1

At this point I was distracted from the game, so I was shocked to hear that Caruana had won what looked like a fairly holdable position. When I asked what had happened after move 33, his eyes lit up, and he replied with a smirk, "A lot!"

33. ... c4?!



I thought the endgame after 33. ... Qxd5 34. Rxd5 Re2 had to be equal, but after 35. Rxc5 Rxb2 36. b4 g6 37. Rc7 Black still has moves to make to prove it. The engine unabashedly proclaims that Black can fearlessly play 33. ... f4! and garner enough counterplay to keep the game balanced.

34. bxc4 bxc4 35. Qb7! Re7 36. Rd8+ Kf7 37. Qf3 g6 38. Qf4 Qc6 39. Rd1 Re4 40. Qh6 Kg8 41. h5!

In major pieces endings, the relative safety

of the kings is the first thing to look at.

41. ... Re8 42. hxg6 hxg6 43. Kf1 Re6 (? , Caruana) 44. Qh4! Re8 45. Rd4 Rc8?

Black's defensive task is near thankless. The engine says the position is tenable, but Black had to find the cold-blooded 45. ... a5! 46. Rxc4 Qb5 47. Kg1 when the incredible 47. ... f4!! (47. ... Qd5!?) 48. Qxf4 Qd5! maintains the balance as Black gets sufficient counterplay against White's king.

46. Qh6 Qe6 47. Rh4 Kf7

It's rarely a good sign when the king has to march up the board in an effort to save itself.

48. Qh7+

Even stronger was 48. Qd2! heading to d4.

48. ... Kf6 49. Rd4 Qe7 50. Qh6 Kf7 51. Qd2

White finds the winning set-up he missed at move 48, but 51. g4! would have ripped the king to shreds even more brutally.

51. ... Rc7 52. Rh4 Kf6 53. Qd4+ Qe5 54. Qb6+ Kg7 55. Qb8 Kf6 56. Qh8+ Ke6 57. Qg8+ Kf6 58. Rd4 Qe7 59. Rd8 Kg5 60. f4+ Kh5 61. Rd2 Qg7 62. Rh2+ Kg4 63. Kg2! g5 64. Qe8, Black resigned.

It had taken eight full rounds for the tournament to finally see a clear leader in the Open section. With the other pre-tournament favorites having lost at least one match, the odds were looking good for the U.S. to repeat as champions.

THE HOME STRETCH

As any champion will tell you, winning titles back-to-back is never easy. It's difficult to maintain the same drive, energy, and determination that got you to the top the first time around. The challenge is made greater since each opponent comes at you like hungry wolves, saliva dripping from the sides of their mouths, desperate to snatch your crown at the first sign of weakness or indecisiveness.

The first big casualty of round nine, played on October 3rd, was actually off the board. The votes were finally in for the FIDE presidential election and a new leader and, most importantly, a new team, had been elected. The winning ticket of Arkady Dvorkovich had swept out the old guard, and after more than two decades a new day had dawned for the international chess body. Of course, it had not happened without intrigue as at the last-minute, third-string candidate Nigel Short had pulled his name off the ballot and fully endorsed the ultimate winner. The fact that he was named to a vice-presidential role shortly thereafter left many to wonder if any backroom machinations had taken place, and a telling admission from Nigel himself made it very clear that chess strategy goes beyond the 64 squares.

Meanwhile, a possible regime change was brewing when the Polish team proved that they were no flash in the pan by taking down the reigning champions from the USA. Not a single game lasted less than 50 moves! Both Shankland and So seemed to have real winning chances but

tenacious defense by GM Jacek Tomczak and GM Radosław Wojtaszek frustrated their higher-rated opponents. Against GM Kacper Piorun, Nakamura declined a line that would have given him an extra pawn but no real advantage only to find himself in a lost endgame come time control. That left the heroic struggle between Caruana and Duda, which reached a rook and bishop versus rook and pawn ending that the tablebases give as winning for Black at one moment (65. ... Bg4!). Caruana missed his chance and when the game ended in a draw on move 118, Poland had incredibly placed itself in position to win its first Olympiad in 88 years!

To get to the top of the mountain, however, Poland had to get through China, who, since their early loss, had been performing with iron-clad consistency to stay within a stone's throw of the leaders. While GM Bu Xiangzhi had racked up the most wins, it was their megastar GM Liren Ding who had proven to be Mr. Invincible, maintaining an unbeaten streak that was now over 80 games. Still severely hobbled by the hip injury he suffered falling off a bike in Norway in May, he had to avoid taking too much liquid before and during the game because going to the restroom would take too much time! It was that kind of mental toughness that had vaulted him firmly into the 2800 club, and that would be required to finally stop the Polish locomotive.

The following brilliancy gets my vote as the game of the tournament. Some of the notes are taken from Liren Ding's spectacular interview with ChessBase India, a video that has to be seen to be believed!

QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED (D24)

GM Liren Ding (FIDE 2804, CHN)

GM Jan-Krzysztof Duda (FIDE 2739, POL)

43rd World Chess Olympiad 2018 (10),

Batumi, Georgia, 10.04.2018

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 dxc4 5. e4 b5 6. e5 Nd5 7. Nxb5 Nb6 8. Be2 Nc6 9. O-O Be7 10. Qd2 O-O 11. Qf4 Rb8 12. Nc3 f5

Ding admits that he was not prepared for this move.

13. Qg3 Kh8 14. Rd1 Nb4 15. b3 cxb3 16. axb3 a6 17. Bc4 Nc2 18. Ra2 Nb4 19. Ra1 Nc2 20. Ra2 Nb4 21. Re2

Given that Chao Li later won his game for China on board four, a draw would have clinched the match. However, since Ding had difficulty even walking a few feet without assistance to see how things were going on other boards, in this case, his hip injury served him well!

21. ... a5 22. d5!



Time to go! Black was threatening to undermine the White position with 22. ... a4. The dizzying array of possibilities to calculate and evaluate boggle the mind, but in unclear terrifying situations, it's usually better to be on the attack.

22. ... exd5

Here Ding says he was more worried about 22. ... N6xd5 23. Nxd5 Nxd5 when 24. Bxd5 exd5 25. e6 Rxb3 26. Bb2 Rxb2! 27. Rxb2 Bxe6 is no good for White. However, White can simply play 24. Nd4 and the fun is just getting started.

23. e6 Bd6 24. Qh3 Qf6 25. Nb5!

The only way forward is usually forward!

25. ... dxc4 26. Nxd6 cxd6?!

A dangerous decision that will require supreme accuracy not to get killed. Safer (though much scarier!) was 26. ... Bxe6 when Ding's intended 27. Ng5? (27. Nxc4 Nxc4 28. bxc4 Bxc4 29. Bb2 Bxe2 30. Bxf6 Rxf6 is just one unclear line) 27. ... Bg8 28. Re6 Qa1! leaves Black on top because White can no longer effectively increase the pressure.

27. e7 Re8?

When a pawn attacks your rook, you usually move it. However, more tenacious was 27. ... Bd7! 28. exf8=Q+ Rxf8 and Black can hope to defend.

28. Ng5! Qg6

The natural 28. ... h6 is met by 29. Qh5! Rxe7

30. Qe8+!

29. Rxd6! f4 30. Qh4 Qb1 31. Re1

Ding finally shows his human side. Winning was 31. Qxf4! when White's threats are descending on Black's position like an eagle from the sky. If Black tries to stop both 32. Qf8+ and 32. Rd8 with 31. ... Bd7 then 32. Rf6! gxf6 33. Qxf6+ Kg8 34. Qf7+ Kh8 35. Rc2!!! (Yes, as the late Emory Tate used to prove, sometimes two exclams are not enough! The more direct 35. Re1! threatening 36. Bb2+! also wins) 35. ... Bf5! (35. ... Qxc2 36. Bb2+!) 36. Qf6+ (Not 36. Qxf5 Rxe7! 37. Qf6+ Rg7!) 36. ... Kg8 37. Nf7! (It turns out that the main purpose of 35. Rc2!!! was actually defensive, so that White could carry out this unstoppable attack. The threat is mate on h6) 37. ... h5 38. Nh6+ Kh7 39. Qxf5+ (39. Nxf5 also wins) 39. ... Kg7 40. Qf7+ Kh8 41. Qf6+ Kh7 42. Nf7! and with 43. Ng5+ coming, Black's king will finally have to give up the ghost.

31. ... Bf5?

Missing White's threat. Black had to play 31. ... Bd7 when White still has more than enough compensation for the piece after 32. f3! N4d5 33. Bxf4.

32. Rd8! Bg6 33. Rxb8 Rxb8 34. Qxf4 Rg8 35. Nf7+ Bxf7 36. Qxf7 Nd7 37. e8=Q Nf6 38. Bg5, Black resigned.

After such a game, the organizers didn't need to wait to give Ding the individual gold medal!

While the Chinese men had put up an heroic effort in the battle for first, the Chinese women had been on cruise control since round seven. However, four draws in the penultimate round against a surging U.S. team had left their likely win suddenly unclear. It would all come down to a final combat against top-seeded but wounded Russia. Things seemed to go horribly wrong right from the beginning for China when GM Aleksandra Goryachkina mauled IM Yang Shen's king on board two, and WGM Olga Girya seemed to be doing the same against GM Tingjie Lei on board four. But incredibly, with two connected passed pawns breathing

down her neck, Lei miraculously managed to escape with a three-fold repetition.

That meant that the battle between two World Champions, past and present, would decide history. GM Alexandra Kosteniuk needed only a draw and thought she had it. After her claim proved to be incorrect, she inexplicably switched from solid defense to dubious activity. With the clock ticking down, GM Wenjun Ju rose to the challenge and saved the match for her team. As the Ukrainian powerhouse had taken down the USA to draw even with China, it all came down to complex tiebreak calculations. The winner: China!

The Chinese men had a less complex if still tense path. With the USA leading on tiebreak, neither side took any huge risks and the result was four interesting but not spellbinding draws. When the Russians won their match, three teams found themselves tied and waiting anxiously for results. In a convoluted system that is gnarly to explain (suffice it to say that it needs to change!), the Chinese men found themselves alongside their country women as gold medalists just ahead of the defending champion USA. It was the first time double gold had occurred since the Soviet teams did it in Dubai in 1986. Congratulations, China!



TEAM USA WAS AWARDED SILVER AT THE FINAL CEREMONIES. THE CONVOLUTED TIEBREAK SYSTEM MEANT THAT THE CHINESE OPEN TEAM STOOD ALONGSIDE THEIR WOMEN'S TEAM AS GOLD MEDALISTS JUST AHEAD OF THE DEFENDING CHAMPION USA.

TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

With the closing ceremony being held the same day as the last round, the players had but a few hours to head back to their hotels, change, and get on buses headed to the lovely Batumi State Musical Center. There were a number of top musical acts punctuated by a mesmerizing rendition of "Oh Capablanca" by the beautiful singer, artist, and chess fan Juga. The Chinese players graced the stage often, with Wenjun Ju winning gold for her board one performance and the hobbling Liren Ding returning time and time again to be recognized. Fabiano Caruana (board one, silver), Irina Krush (board two, silver) and Jennifer Yu (board five, bronze) were all smiles standing on stage draped in the Stars and Stripes. The husband and wife team of Xiangzhi Bu (board four, silver) and Qian Huang (board three, silver) of China certainly

had a lot to celebrate that night. The best individual performers of the entire Olympiad were Webster University's Jorge Cori of Peru in the Open section and World Champion Wenjun Ju in the Women's, while China naturally won the Nona Gaprindashvili Cup for the team with the best combined score. The Georgian women snagged the bronze, much to the delight of the home country.

The next day, I said goodbye to my little troop from Madagascar, who finished 83rd, 18 spots ahead of their initial tournament standing. I remained a couple more days, as did quite a few teams, to enjoy Batumi without the stress of having to think about chess. It's what we chess players live for: making new friends and hanging out in a beautiful city with the best chess players in the game. What more could one ask for?

On to Khanty-Mansiysk 2020! ♠

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Photo: Harry Benson CBE. Fabiano Caruana on the Patio of the World Chess Hall of Fame, 2018.

© Harry Benson. Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame.

WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND

The Collins manuscripts at Indiana University gives us a glimpse into John “Jack” Collins’ extraordinary life and chess career.

Text and photos by **JOSHUA ANDERSON**

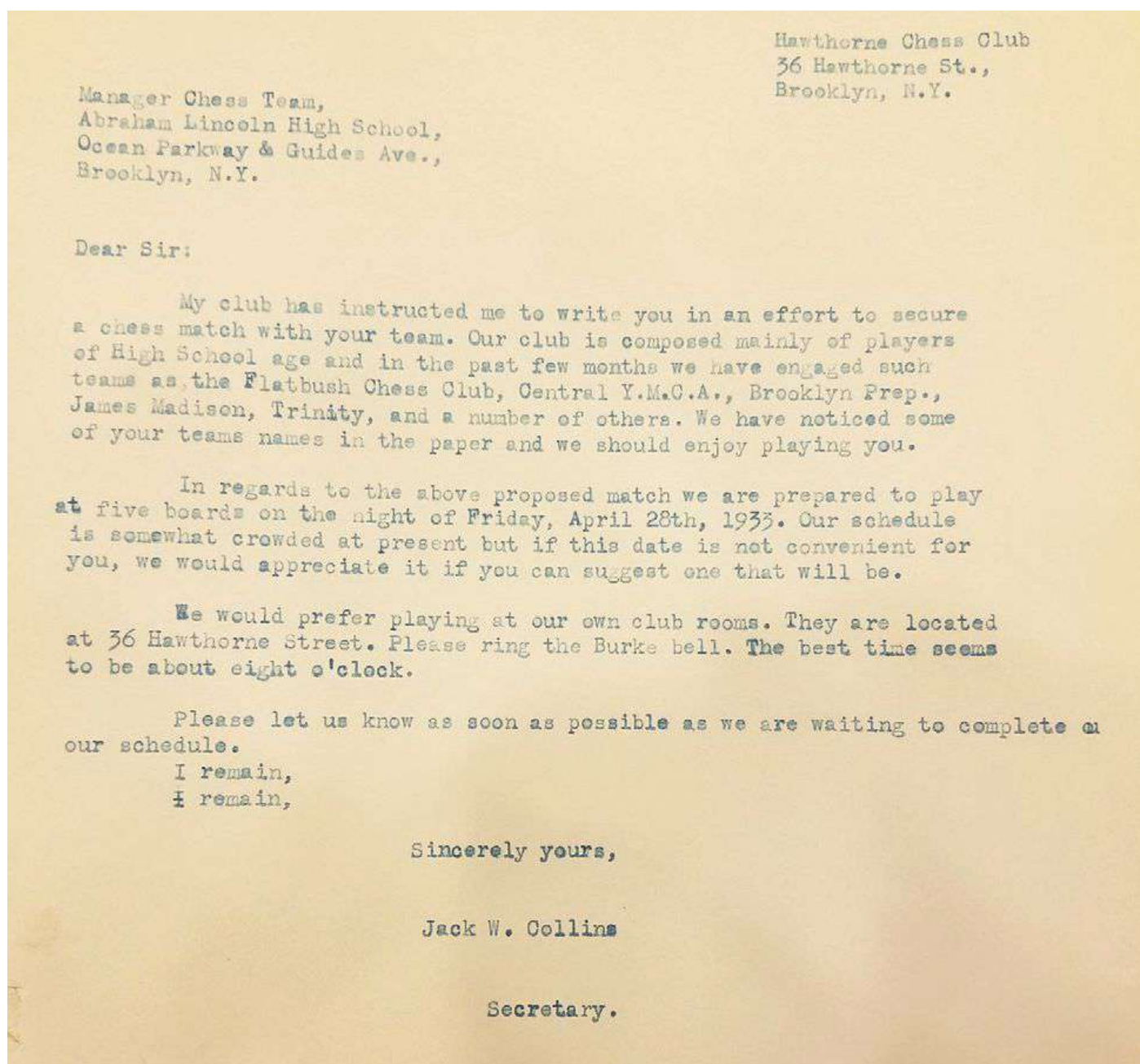
Where would you look for Bobby Fischer’s own notes about the Game of the Century, unknown games from a couple of United States’ champions, or a mate-in-two puzzle made up by Frank Marshall for his Christmas card?

No, not the famed White Collection at the Cleveland Public Library, nor the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis, and not even the *Koninklijke Bibliotheek* (The National Library of the Netherlands with a 30,000 plus collection of chess and draught books.) Add in such non-chess items as letters to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and a rejection letter from Street & Smith, and few would guess that these items can be found in the collection of John “Jack” Collins curated in the Lilly Library of Bloomington, Indiana.

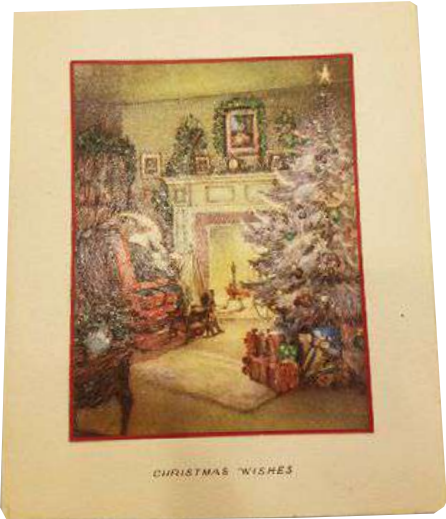
Two questions naturally spring to mind:

- 1) Who was John Collins?
- 2) Why Bloomington, Indiana?

The second question is the easier of the two. Lilly Library is the rare books, manuscripts, and special collections library at Indiana University. It houses numerous impressive collections, including that of noted puzzler Jerry Sloum. After the passing of John Collins on December 2, 2001, the Glenn Horowitz Booksellers (who recently sold the Bob Dylan collection to the University of Tulsa for over \$15 million) began to prepare



PICTURE ONE: A LETTER FROM JOHN COLLINS, SECRETARY FOR THE HAWTHORNE CHESS CLUB, SEEKING TO SET UP MATCHES WITH RIVAL TEAMS.



PICTURES TWO AND THREE: (TOP ROW, LEFT AND CENTER): ONE OF FRANK MARSHALL'S FAMOUS CHRISTMAS CARD PUZZLES. PICTURE FOUR: (TOP ROW, RIGHT): ADMISSION TICKET TO THE 1938 AMERICAN CHESS FEDERATION'S 39TH CONGRESS AND OPEN TOURNAMENT.

PICTURE FIVE (RIGHT): COLLINS' SCORESHEET FROM THE 39TH CONGRESS AND OPEN TOURNAMENT, WHERE HE DREW IM I.A. HOROWITZ.

THE BOSTON CITY CLUB

Chess Score

Event: Masters. Round 7 Opening: J. W. Collins (B) Date: July 17, 1938

I. Horowitz (W) vs. J. W. Collins (B)

WHITE vs. BLACK		WHITE vs. BLACK	
1	P-K4	P-K4	PxP
2	N-KB3	N-QB3	R-GR2
3	B-QN5	P-QR3	K-N2
4	B-GR4	N-KB3	R-K2
5	O-O	B-K2	P-Q5
6	Q-K2	P-QN4	B-KB4
7	B-QN3	O-O	R-KB
8	P-QB3	P-Q3	R-K
9	P-Q4	B-KN5	R-K
10	R-A	PxP	QxN
11	PxP	P-Q4	PxQ
12	P-K5	KIV-K5	K-N3
13	N-QB3	NxN	ARAW
14	PxN	N-GR4	
15	B-QB2	N-QB5	
16	P-KR3	B-KR4	
17	P-KN4	B-KN3	
18	N-KR2	BxB	
19	QxB	Q-Q2	
20	P-KB4	P-KB4	
21	K-R	G-K3	
22	R-KN	K-R	
23	Q-K2	P-QB4	
24	N-B3	GR-QB	
25	P-QR3	R-Q33	
26	R-GR2	G-KR3	
27	G-KB1	R-KM3	
28	R-KR2	R-QN3	
29	G-KN2	P-KN3	
30	N-KN5	BBP x P	
31	QBP x P	Q-KN2	
32	KNP x P	R x P	
33	G x GP	G-B1	
34	P-GR4	B x N	
35	PxB	R-Q3	
36	Q-K4	R-Q	

Adjourned Position

Color to Play

Adjourned to

at m

Frank J. Sanborn, 14 Somerset St., Boston, Mass.

Collins' papers and a few personal items for archiving. In 2004 and 2007, Indiana University purchased the two parts of the Collins manuscripts. Erika Dowell, associate director and curator of modern books and manuscripts at the Lilly Library, explained that it is not uncommon for a collection to come in parts, nor is it unusual for the processing of a collection to take some time.

Though Collins' manuscripts were indexed from 2001 to 2007, it began long before. Which brings us back to the first question: Who was John Collins?

John William "Jack" Collins was born September 23, 1912, in Newburgh, New York, to John, a musician, and Carolyn, a homemaker. An x-ray in the collection, from when Collins was two years old, shows a hip injury that left him largely confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Another relic from his childhood are the colored toy paper soldiers representing the Allies and Axis powers of World War I, as well as soldiers of the American Revolution and other wars. Little else from the collection gives clues into Collins' childhood and teen years—until he discovered chess as a teenager while living in Brooklyn, New York. Chess soon became the focus of Collins' collections.

New York in the 1930s was an exciting time for chess and playing club chess was a popular activity. Clubs came and went during this period of chess popularity. On November 20, 1931, Collins and his friends John Burke, Samuel LoPresti, and James Doyle formed the Hawthorne Chess Club, named for Collins' home at 36 Hawthorne Street. The club rotated meeting places among the members and had club dues of a quarter (\$4.70 in 2018 dollars) each week. By 1933, the Hawthorne Chess Club had eight members and regularly played matches against other clubs (picture one).

Throughout the 1930s, Collins didn't just play at the Hawthorne club; he would regularly play in other clubs as well, as is evidenced by the numerous club membership cards in his collection that span from the 1930s through the 1970s. Though Collins wasn't playing on club teams by the 1970s, in the 1930s and 1940s he was a regular participant in the famed Metropolitan Chess League, which challenged rival clubs to games. The "Met League," founded in 1895, was comprised of the city's largest and strongest clubs, including the prominent Manhattan Chess Club (which closed in 2002) and the Marshall Chess Club (still in existence today and the second oldest club in the nation).

Once, while representing the Brooklyn club, Collins played noted GM Isaac Kashdan, who counted among his accomplishments winning the

U.S. Open championship twice (in 1938 and 1947). When Collins played at the Marshall, he also helped with organizing. This led to a friendship with Frank and Caroline Marshall; in 1943, Collins received one of Marshall's famous puzzling Christmas cards (pictures two and three).

Throughout the 1930s, Collins also played in numerous tournaments, including the 1938 American Chess Federation's 39th Congress and Open tournament (picture four).

(Note: The American Chess Federation became the United States Chess Federation and the Congress and Open tournament is now the U.S. Open). Collins drew IM I.A. Horowitz, who, along with Kashdan,



THRONES OF THE GAME

The tale of the Hawthorne Chess Club, named after the Collins' first New York City apartment at 69 Hawthorne Street in the Flatbush area of Brooklyn, is a true story of a chess Camelot where the table was not round but square and the knights could be moved with a flick of the wrist. The Herald of Hawthorne was a diminutive man, wheelchair-bound due to a birth mishap. But like the legendary Arthur, John Collins drew the greatest like minds to his council.

Collins started the club as a chess-fevered teenager in search of playing partners. The club relocated twice—as Jack (as everyone knew him) and his devoted sister Ethel aged and moved—once just a few blocks away to Lenox Avenue and finally to lower Manhattan's Stuyvesant Town. But it remained forever the “Hawthorne Chess Club,” and it became the most famous chess soiree in America.

Wherever it moved, the club brought with it the most renowned cluster of furnishings in American chess history: two stuffed easy chairs (one green, one red), a coffee table supporting a wooden set and board, a side table supporting a horse-head lamp and a chess clock with a built-in bell that rang every 10 seconds (famous for training the future 11th world champ to avoid time trouble).

Most American chessplayers know that Bobby Fischer, William Lombardy, and Robert and Donald Byrne were great masters who were, to various degrees, incubated in those chairs as they played Jack and one another. Even more than that, Jack and his cozy thrones were a pilgrimage stop for American chess nobility: Irving Chernev,

Hermann Helms, Arthur Bisguier, and legions more. And his visitors went beyond the chess elite to prominent figures in other fields, like Marcel Duchamp and John Cage, who both sat in the chairs and took lessons. Nearly every American chess celebrity at some time visited the Collins' living-room-chess-club, as well as players of all strengths. Collins showed them all how to love chess.

“Jack, who found it difficult to leave his apartment, ironically met more of the world's chess aristocracy than most of us,” IM Sal Matera recalled. Matera was one of the *Wunderkind*-students Collins writes about in his book, *My Seven Chess Prodigies*. As a 10-year-old, Matera would come to the Hawthorne at noon, playing and analyzing with Collins. “They gave me Coke all day, and Ethel would make sandwiches and then dinner for us. Fischer or Lombardy might show up, and we'd carry on until 8 p.m.” The “charge” was three dollars. And when Matera's dad died tragically young, Collins became a surrogate father, as he had for Fischer.

These days there's a revisionism afoot that argues Collins couldn't have taught Fischer anything. But just for the record, Bobby Fischer first rang Jack's doorbell one afternoon in June 1956. As Collins retells it in his *My Seven Chess Prodigies*, “I opened the door and a slender, blond typical 13-year-old ... in a plaid woolen shirt, corduroy trousers, and black-and-white sneakers, said simply, ‘I'm Bobby Fischer.’” Bobby's US Chess rating, published just weeks before he rang Jack's bell on Hawthorne, was 1726. Collins' was 2375.



(Lombardy's, by the way, was 2349.) Bobby then began one of his magical years. Twelve months later, Bobby's published rating was 2231. Jack's was still 120 points higher.

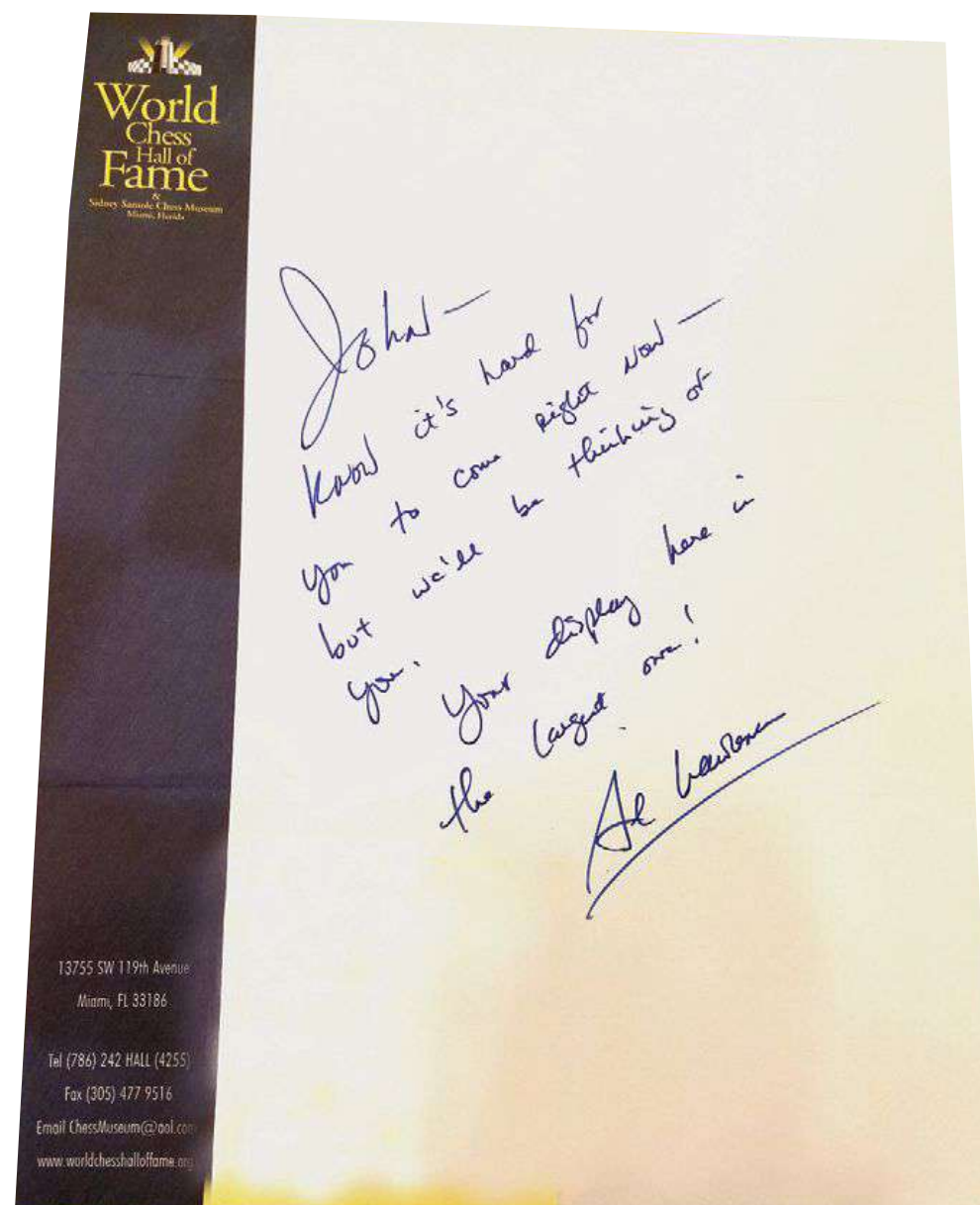
Jack's own characteristic humility might have helped fuel current doubt. Once he said, "Nobody taught Bobby. Geniuses, like Beethoven, Shakespeare, and Fischer come out of the head of Zeus ..." But could all those games with the famous master-mentor, US Chess Correspondence champion, New York State champion, Marshall Club champion, *Chess Life* columnist and co-author of *Modern Chess Openings 9*, not have taught the young Bobby something valuable?

It's true that it was Jack and Ethel's magical alchemy of acceptance and boundless love of the game and the people who played it that made the Hawthorne Chess Club a crucible of chess genius. In October of 1956, Fischer played his "Game of the Century" against fellow Hawthorne Donald Byrne and went on eventually to a world championship and worldwide notoriety. US Chess anointed Collins as its only-ever "Teacher of the Century," and he went on only to admiration. He was inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame in 1991.

A decade later, I explained to Jack that the Samole Family, with the cooperation of the US Chess Trust, was in Miami magnanimously constructing and outfitting the first-ever official World Chess Hall of Fame—complete with a 45-foot rook tower entry way—that would contain the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame as well. (The two previous locations, in New Windsor, New York, and Washington, D.C., had been only the U.S. version, but the Samoles had gained FIDE's imprimatur as well—a gigantic step.) I suppose I was hoping Jack would lend a memento or two from the Fischer days—a scoresheet of an offhand game or a signed photo.

Instead, Jack wanted me to take charge of the Hawthorne fixtures that had supported so much history and so much genius. Chess relics that were a most holy of Bobby Fischer holies.

In a rented van, my wife Daphne and I collected the treasure in Stuyvesant Town, curbside, with the help of Collins' stalwart aide Odell. I drove the relics in a sort of modern-day chess Ark of the Covenant, battling Manhattan traffic to our farmhouse 60 miles upstate. I've held a lot of chess history, including the famous Morphy Silver chess set. But as I helped move Collins' furniture into our small library room, I felt outside myself, looking down at this astonishing event. In the days of waiting for the completion of the



Miami Hall, I sat in the chairs. With light from the famous lamp, I analyzed a Fischer game or two on the set that had trained and revealed so much brilliance. Alas, no osmosis of genius occurred. But it is a time always in my memory.

Within a few months, Sid Samole's son Shane had commissioned a dedicated, major display of Collins' fixtures at the Hall. I knew Jack was very ill and couldn't travel. I wrote the note to Jack that Joshua Anderson found in the Collins manuscripts (picture nine above). The grand opening, a ceremony with a live chess exhibition, simultaneous exhibitions, and some of the world's greatest players in attendance, took place on December 16, 2001. Sid Samole had died a year and a half before his dream of a World Chess Museum became reality. But he knew his son would carry it through. Jack had died only two weeks before hundreds crowded in front of his display. I hope he knew they would.

For all the years the Miami World Chess Hall of Fame welcomed the public from around the world, my favorite bit of docent-showmanship was to start the Collins clock ringing in front of a busload of saucer-eyed schoolkids—and to tell the tale of a Chess Camelot and its unlikely King. ~Al Lawrence

PHOTO, LEFT PAGE: COLLINS' COZY THRONES—AS SEEN IN THE DEDICATED WORLD CHESS HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT—HOSTED STUDENTS, THE CHESS ELITE, AND OTHER PROMINENT FIGURES; ABOVE LEFT: THREE OF COLLINS' SEVEN PRODIGIES IN 1964. LEFT TO RIGHT: WILLIAM LOMBARDY, SAL MATERA, AND BOBBY FISCHER; ABOVE RIGHT (PICTURE NINE): AL LAWRENCE'S HANDWRITTEN NOTE TO COLLINS ABOUT THE GRAND OPENING OF THE WORLD CHESS HALL OF FAME IN MIAMI.



tied for first place in the event, while Collins finished tied for eighth place (*picture five*).

In 1939, Collins was invited to participate in the first Ventnor City chess tournament, a series that continued throughout the war years, where he finished tenth.

Collins' manuscripts weren't strictly dedicated to chess. He had always been small for his age and, coupled with his mobility challenges, he often devoted time to writing, a pursuit where size was not an issue. His collection also contains numerous short stories that he tried to have published in various pulp magazines, including Street & Smith, publishers of such series as *Doc Savage* and *The Shadow*. Two letters to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt are in the collection as well. Letters to the president were not uncommon in that era, as Roosevelt's "Fireside chats" were intended as messages directly from the President to the public. This made many feel a connection to the Roosevelts and resulted in many people, including Collins, writing letters to the couple. Collins' letters to the President expressed his concern for the economy, the difficulties facing the nation and the world.

Though he was playing regularly at different clubs, Collins continued serving as the secretary of the Hawthorne club. In the early 1940s, Collins, along with his mother and sister, Ethel (both of whom still lived with him, as they would their entire lives), moved to 91 Lenox Road. Membership in the Hawthorne club grew to the low double digits with Collins remaining one of the best players in the club. In 1943, two boys showed up at the Collins' family home one day asking for the Hawthorne Chess Club. Collins' mother answered the door and was rather chagrined that her home was mistaken for a chess club. However, she welcomed the boys inside and soon they were playing games with

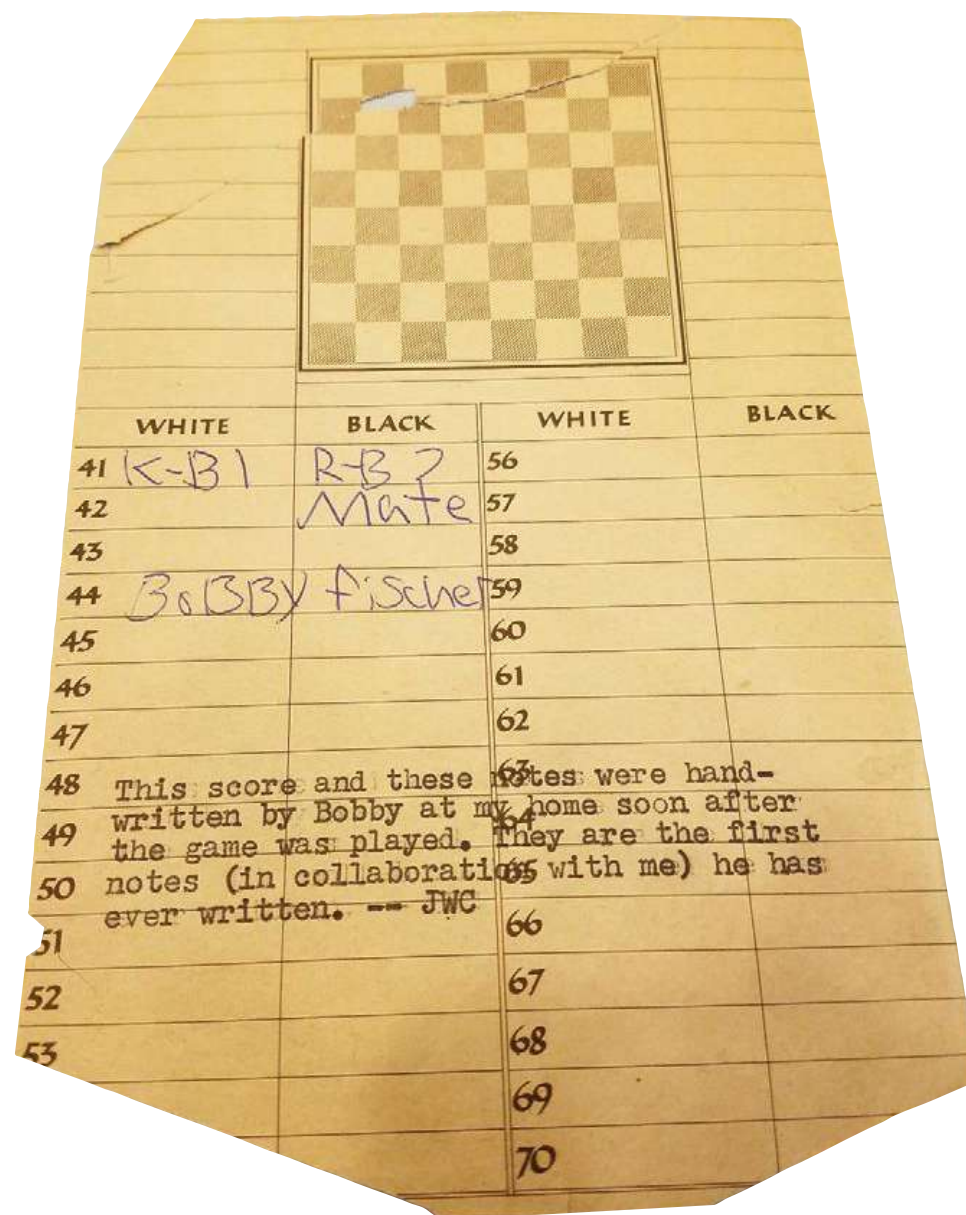
Collins and the other members. The boys' names were Robert and Donald Byrne.

The Byrne brothers weren't the strongest players when they joined the club. Donald, age 12, was deemed too weak to play in the 1943 club championship; Robert, age 14, played in the tournament, but finished 1/5. But the boys quickly became much stronger players from playing regularly at the Hawthorne club and elsewhere in the city. While the Byrne brothers were striving to improve, Collins was not giving them formal lessons; rather, he continued his own fine chess work, winning the U.S. Postal Chess Championship that year.

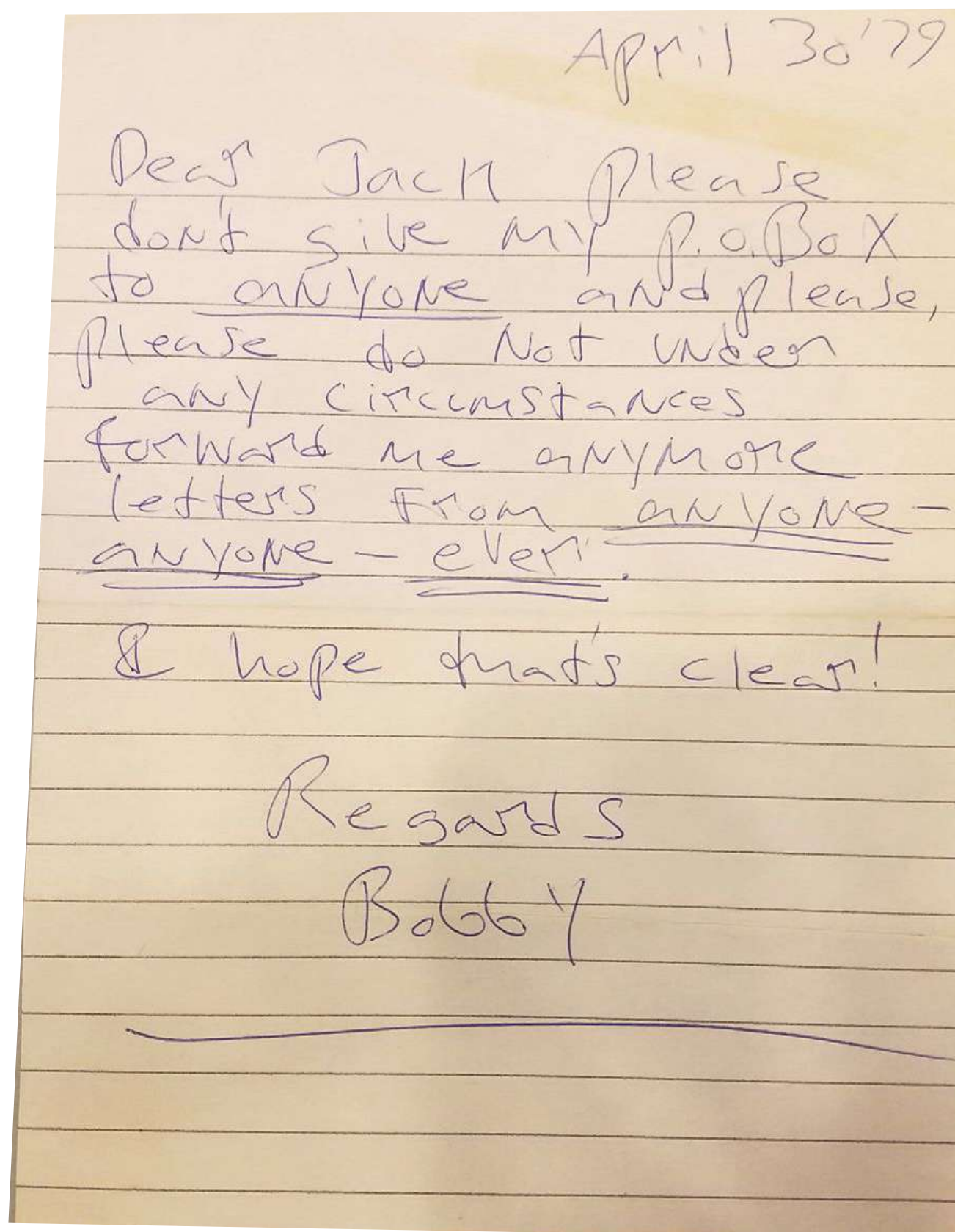
In 1950, Collins tied for 11th in the First World Correspondence Chess Championship. He won the New York State championship in 1952—probably the strongest tournament in the United States that year, except for the U.S. Open. Collins also wrote a column for *Chess Review* throughout the 1950s and edited, with Walter Korn, the 9th edition of *Modern Chess Openings* (MCO) in 1957. Collins was having a very successful decade.

Meanwhile, the Byrnes were embarking on remarkable careers of their own.

The Byrne brothers were hardly the first kids to play at the Hawthorne Chess Club, but they were the first two players to gain national recognition. They also were, at least chronologically, the first two kids to be included in Collins' book, *My Seven Chess Prodigies* (1975). However, the first chapter in that book belonged to Robert James Fischer. In 1956, Fischer was a young, talented player of 13 years when he sat down at the Marshall Chess Club to play Donald Byrne on October 17, 1956. He would rise as the winner of what Hans Kmoch called, "The Game of the Century." Shortly thereafter, Fischer, in collaboration with Collins, wrote the notes pictured below (*pictures six and seven*).



PICTURES SIX (UPPER LEFT CORNER) AND SEVEN (ABOVE): THE HANDWRITTEN GAME OF THE CENTURY MATCH BETWEEN BOBBY FISCHER AND DONALD BYRNE, WITH COLLINS' TYPED NOTES AT THE BOTTOM.



PICTURE EIGHT: BOBBY FISCHER'S NOTES TO COLLINS TOOK ON A DARKER TONE AFTER COLLINS GAVE FISCHER'S P.O. BOX ADDRESS TO A REPORTER. FISCHER BELIEVED HIS PRIVACY HAD BEEN BREACHED.

Fischer would remain close with Collins for numerous years. He would write him, usually on postcards, from various tournaments. These messages tended to be light (one even joking about being hung over after trying beer) and friendly—he even inquired about Ethel's health. But the tone changed markedly in 1979 after Collins gave a reporter Fischer's P.O. Box address. Collins received an angry letter from Fischer in response to this perceived breach of privacy. Fischer's letter demanded, "Don't give my P.O. Box to anyone and please, please do not under any circumstances forward me any more letters from anyone—anyone—ever! I hope that's clear!" (picture eight)

Collins had started teaching shortly after

learning to play chess, though his first student, sister Ethel, was more of a constant help and companion than a student. Sal Matera, Collins' student in the late '50s and early '60s, remembers that for the cost of \$3 a lesson, he would spend much of a Saturday at the Collins' residence, drinking a six pack of soda while going through columns in *MCO* (the ninth edition, which Collins had co-edited), and then reviewing various games and puzzles, especially games of world champions. Collins continued teaching and actively participating in the scholastic chess community after the rise of Fischer as well.

The collection contains Collins' teaching records dating from 1971, which show he

was regularly charging \$8 (\$48.50 in 2018 dollars) a lesson. He was well regarded in the chess community as a skilled teacher, and Fischer's success bolstered his reputation even more. Even after Fischer left chess after winning the world championship, Collins continued to work with other talented students, such as Nawrose Nur, the World Under-10 Champion in 1990.

With the help of former Hawthorne Club member and *My Seven Chess Prodigies* player, GM William Lombardy, Collins began to take groups of strong players to Iceland regularly to face talented opponents. The events—called "safaris" in many of the picture albums in the collection (the photos were not removable making copies impractical)—started in the late 1970s and lasted through the beginning of the 1990s. The teams included young talent from around the United States, such as Stuart Rachels of Alabama, who would go on to tie for the U.S. Championship in 1989. In the first years of these trips, players sometimes went to Collins' home to review some material, but the teaching lessened over the years. Many United States Amateur Team East (USATE) tournament teams also were developed through the club.

As the turn of the century approached, Collins had been involved in chess—especially chess instruction for the young—for almost 70 years. Acknowledgement of his impressive career led to various awards. The most noteworthy of these was Collins' 1991 induction into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. A decade later, when the World Chess Hall of Fame opened in Miami featuring Collins' fixtures, then-Hall of Fame Director Al Lawrence understood that Collins could not attend the grand opening in person, but he wrote to let Collins know he was missed and that his display was the largest. (see sidebar)

The Hall of Fame inductions are exclusively awarded for a lifetime of work and this collection documents Collins' legacy. What we leave behind is not as important as who we are, but what we leave behind tells others who we were. In the case of Collins, we find a man passionate about chess and about teaching others the game, a person who helped shape many young lives during the time he experienced, and who inspired others to pass on those lessons to generations that are yet to come. ♠

Editor's note: In the interest of preservation, the Lilly Library did not allow Collins' documents to be removed from their protective sleeves prior to being photographed. Consequently, in some instances, the quality of the photography in this article may be slightly compromised.

The Lilly Library is the principal rare books, manuscripts, and special collections repository of Indiana University. It serves as a resource for scholars throughout the world and is a center for cultural enrichment. The Library is open to anyone interested in its collections. An inventory of the Collins manuscripts can be found at www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/lilly/mss/index.php

The Chess Guns of August

Alekhine wages his own miniature war in this month's game against Hans Fahrni.

By **BRUCE PANDOLFINI**

WHETHER OR NOT THE CZAR OFFICIALLY designated Lasker, Capablanca, Alekhine, Tarrasch, and Marshall as the first five grandmasters of chess is certainly open to question. But it is undisputable that in 1914, Alexander Alekhine was fast becoming one of the world's premiere players. He was leading the 19th *Deutscher Schachbund* (DSB) Congress at Mannheim with a runaway score of 9½ out of 11 when suddenly World War I broke out and play had to be halted. In his last game of that event, Alekhine's opponent was Hans Fahrni (Black). Waging his own miniature war, Alekhine displayed what became his signature attacking style: command across the board, with the ability to shift from flank to flank.

FRENCH DEFENSE, CLASSICAL SYSTEM (C14)

Alexander Alekhine

Hans Fahrni

Mannheim (11), Mannheim, Germany,
08.01.1914

The historic encounter began as a French Defense: 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e5 Nfd7.

(see diagram top of next column)

Now ensure that the above position is set up on your chessboard. As you play through the remaining moves in this game, use a piece of paper to cover the article, exposing White's next move only after trying to guess it. If you guess correctly, give yourself the par score. Sometimes points are also awarded for second-best moves, and there may be bonus points—or deductions—for other moves and variations. Note that ** means that White's move is on the next line. **



6. h4 **Par Score 5**

The Alekhine-Chatard Attack. White sacrifices a pawn to open the h-file and to gain time for development and attack. Accept *full credit* for 6. Bxe7.

6. ... **Bxg5**

Black decides to accept the pawn. **

7. hxg5 **Par Score 5**

Even Alekhine has to recapture the bishop.

7. ... **Qxg5**

A pawn is a pawn. **

8. Nh3 **Par Score 5**

This developing move drives back the black queen. Meanwhile, White intends to shift the knight elsewhere.

8. ... **Qe7**

Black withdraws the queen to a reasonable defensive post. Even though White has sacrificed a pawn, the position is about even. **

9. Nf4 **Par Score 5**

From f4, the knight observes three potentially critical squares: h5, g6, and d5.

9. ... **Nf8**

This retreat insures that White keeps a slight initiative. A more hopeful try was the active 9. ... Qb4. **

10. Qg4 **Par Score 5**

For so many lines in the French, once Black's king-bishop moves out, White tries to assail the weakened g7-square. Add *1 bonus point* if you intended to answer 10. ... g6? by 11. Ncxd5! (or 11. Nfxd5), when 11. ... exd5 is met by 12. Qxc8+.

10. ... **f5**

The g7-pawn must be safeguarded. **

11. exf6 e.p. **Par Score 5**

Alekhine opts to keep the lines open.

11. ... **gxf6**

This is much better than 11. ... Qxf6, allowing 12. Nfxd5!. **

12. 0-0-0 **Par Score 5**

Deduct 3 points if you played 12. Nfxd5? (or 12. Ncxd5?). Either capture is rebuffed by 12. ... exd5+, discovered check!

12. ... **c6**

Fahrni concludes that it's best to solidify d5. **

13. Re1 **Par Score 5**

Alekhine mounts the pressure along the open e-file, which is ripe for tactics, with Black's king and queen lined up on it.

13. ... **Kd8**

Black gives up on castling, though he does get his king off the e-file. He also defends the c8-bishop, just in case. **

ABCs of Chess

These problems are all related to key positions in this month's game. In each case, **Black is to move**. The answers can be found in Solutions on page 71.

January Exercise: Here's an exercise to help you think in a more organized manner. Thoroughly analyze every game you play. Determine what the key themes are for each of these games. Three themes should be ample to describe any game. Collect this material over time, always trying to place each new game in a proper conceptual section. Don't be afraid to change the arrangement of the games, or even the order of their sections, as ideas start falling into place. Do this consistently, and you're likely to become more logical. After a while, you may even have written your own book.

PROBLEM I

Mating net



PROBLEM II

Mating net



PROBLEM III

Mating net



PROBLEM IV

Mating net



PROBLEM V

Mating net



PROBLEM VI

Mating net



14. Rh6 Par Score 5

White stations his rook annoyingly inside Black's position. The move also obstructs the h7-pawn, signaling potential future attacks.

14. ... e5

This releases the black bishop, with an attack to White's queen. Black's pawns appear menacing, but in actuality, they are very assailable.**

15. Qh4 Par Score 5

Alekhine attacks the f6-pawn for a second time. Accept *full credit* for 15. Qh5, which menaces e5.

15. ... Nbd7

Black is cramped. Nevertheless, the position remains essentially even.**

16. Bd3 Par Score 5

White develops the bishop, aiming its force at the weak black h7-pawn.

16. ... e4

This advance deals with the pressure against e5, but now e4 comes under fire. Does White now have a sacrifice on d5?*

17. Qg3 Par Score 6

Possibly, White rejected the variation 17. Nfxd5 cxd5 18. Ncxd5 Qg7 19. Bxe4 because of the trading down move 19. ... Qg5+. But Alekhine is operating under the principle that the attacker shouldn't trade pieces without some kind of gain.

17. ... Qf7

With Black's queen off the e-file, the white bishop is now threatened.**

18. Bxe4 Par Score 6

Accept *full credit* for either 18. Be2 or 18. Bf1. Alekhine's sacrifice is entertaining, while being indicative of his aspiration for open lines.

18. ... dxe4

Of course, Black must take the bishop.**

19. Nxe4 Par Score 5

This is a little better than taking back with the rook (19. Rxe4). From e4, the scope of White's queen-knight is greatly improved.

19. ... Rg8

Black snubs 19. ... Qxa2 in light of 20. Nd6, with various threats.**

20. Qa3 Par Score 6

Typical Alekhine. He shifts his queen from the kingside over to the queenside for both defense and attack.

20. ... Qg7

Black attacks the h6-rook and seemingly gets away from a pesky knight invasion on d6.**

21. Nd6 Par Score 6

For Black, this invasion is most unfriendly. Now if 21. ... Qxh6?, then 22. Nf7+ (1 bonus point).

21. ... Nb6

This clears the second rank for the black queen and the c8-h3 diagonal for the bishop. But it's too late. Alekhine finishes up in stellar fashion.**

22. Ne8 Par Score 7

A surprising infiltration. Black could try 22. ... Nc4 in response, but White is still forging ahead after 23. Qb4 (or even 23. Qc5).

22. ... Qf7

Note that 22. ... Qxh6 allows 23. Qe7 mate (1 bonus point). Meanwhile, 22. ... Qd7 23. Nxf6 (1 bonus point) is not very good either.**

23. Qd6+ Par Score 5

Black now has a "choice." He can block with a minor piece and be mated at c7, or he can block with the queen, and be mated at e7, so, sensibly, **Black resigned**. If he had wanted to delay the inevitable as long as possible, his best option would have been ...

23. ... Qd7

... and at least, with this move, getting mated takes more than one move.**

24. Qxf6+ Par Score 5

Accept 1 bonus point more for seeing that 24. ... Qe7 is answered by 25. Qxe7 mate.♠

See scoring box on page 71.

Did you know you could read archival copies of "Solitaire Chess" (and all columns and features)? Go to uschess.org, click on "Chess Life Magazine," and then "Archives."

Chess GPS

When you are not sure how to evaluate a position, sometimes it's better not to evaluate it.

By **GM DANIEL NARODITSKY**

THE NEXT TIME THAT YOU HAVE A FEW hours (and marbles) to spare, try using your GPS to navigate around Stanford University. For the few of you who have better things to do in your spare time, I will divulge a sneak preview. The campus contains a staggering number of pedestrian-only alleys, bike-only roundabouts, one-way streets, unnamed streets, and dead ends—not to mention the equally Byzantine system of parking permits. If you want to see what Google Maps is like on LSD, you know where to go.

Though we can laugh about the relative imperfections of modern technology, it is no joking matter when your internal GPS starts to malfunction at the chess board. The equivalent of a confusing university campus is, of course, a complex and highly unbalanced position, in which standard metrics of evaluation are either useless or altogether inapplicable. In this month's column, we examine just such a position. Both players are monstrously strong, yet even their GPS pointed them in the wrong direction for several critical moves in a row. Can we learn from their mistakes and prepare our own chess navigators for an epic challenge? Let's find out!

WRONG DIRECTIONS

GM Ray Robson (2760)

GM Dariusz Swiercz (2769)

2018 Fall Chess Classic (9), St. Louis, Missouri, 10.18.2018

(see diagram top of next column)

In general, a good place to start a surface-level assessment of a position is by counting the material and evaluating relative king safety.



AFTER 29. Rxc3

Unfortunately, both metrics yield more questions than answers: White has two rooks for a queen, and it is entirely unclear whose king is safer in the long run. Great! What now?

When you are not sure how to evaluate a position, the solution can be straightforward: don't evaluate it! Rather, pool all of your efforts into first checking for tactics and then generating the best move with the aid of calculation.

Common chess wisdom teaches us that evaluation is the necessary first step in determining the course of action in a critical position. The process of weighing and comparing factors like material, king safety, pawn structure, piece placement, and the like is indispensable because it guides our thinking in the right direction. While that is all true, some positions—like the one above—resist this sort of logic. Imagine if someone tapped GM Swiercz on the shoulder and sagely whispered, “Dariusz, you might want to know that your pawn structure is worse, but your king placement is marginally better!” Would that help him find a move? Probably not. But now imagine if the same person came up and whispered, “Dariusz, you have a

tactical blow in this position!” Would that question fare any better? I certainly believe so!

29. ... f5?!

After this move is executed, king safety truly does become an important matter of consideration. Though he defends the e4-pawn, Swiercz permanently opens up the long diagonal, creating a rather alarming opportunity for a vicious attack along the seventh rank. It transpires that Swiercz actually did have a tactical sequence, based on the fact that the bishop on c6 is unprotected. There is a reason why LPDO (Loose Pieces Drop Off), an acronym coined by GM John Nunn, is so well-known. Black exploits the vulnerable bishop by sacrificing his own: 29. ... Bxb3!! 30. Rxb3 Qe6, hitting the newly-unprotected rook and bishop. After 31. Ba4?! Qc4, we reach a remarkable position in which White cannot protect his bishop despite the massive amount of material clustered on the queenside. Hence, White should prefer 31. Rb5 Qxc6 32. a4, freezing up the queenside and leading to a very drawish position. Black can try to push with 32. ... f5, intending ... f5-f4, to which White should reply 33. Be5! (inducing a further weakening) 33. ... g5 34. Bd4 Bxd4 35. exd4 Qc3 36. Rab1 (36. Rd1 f4! 37. Rxb6 e3 gives Black a marginal initiative, though the game should still end in a draw with best play) 36. ... e3 37. fxe3 Qxe3+ 38. Kh1 Qxd4 39. Rxb6 with a perpetual to follow.

30. Bb5?

Understandably enough, Robson evacuates his bishop from the danger zone. But human logic does not produce very good results here; everything is based on concrete tactical re-

Practicum

Each month GM Naroditsky will present two problems taken from actual games that illustrate the theme of this month's column. Your task is to find the best line of play. Problem I should be solveable by a player at roughly a 1500 rating and Problem II by a player roughly at a 2000 rating.

See the solutions on page 71.

PROBLEM I: 1500 LEVEL

WGM Shiqun Ni (2436)
GM Alexandra Kosteniuk (2543)
Women's World Championship, 2018



WHITE TO MOVE

PROBLEM II: 2000 LEVEL

GM Ray Robson (2760)
GM Dariusz Swiercz (2769)
2018 St. Louis Fall Classic, 2018



BLACK TO MOVE

sources. To this end, White had to strike first with 30. b4!, sacrificing a pawn to pave the pawn for an immediate incursion along the a-file. Following 30. ... axb4 (refusing the sacrifice with 30. ... Bd6 is not a very good idea due to 31. Rc2 and Black has to take the pawn anyway) 31. axb4 Bxb4 32. Rcc1, a critical position arises.



ANALYSIS AFTER 32. Rcc1

Once again, it is nearly impossible to evaluate this position in human terms. To come up with a suitable plan of defense for Black, one must adopt a concrete prophylactic approach. What is the threat? Well, it seems to be Ra8+ followed by Rca1, with impending infiltration on a7. Therefore, Black must respond with 32. ... Kh7!. White has several tries, all of which necessitate filigree precision:

A) 33. Ra8 creates the serious double threats of Rca1 and (more importantly) Rb8. To defend, Black must once more adopt a prophylactic mindset: 33. ... h5!! is the only way out, creating some luft for the king. After 34. Rca1 (34. Rb8? is no longer scary due to 34. ... Qd6! 35. Rb7 Qd2 36. Rxc7+ Kh6 and White must grovel for a draw) 34. ... Qd6 35. Be8 (35. R1a7 loses to the stunning sequence 35. ... Qd1+ 36. Kh2 Bd6+ 37. g3 Bxc3+!! 38. fxc3 Qd2+, picking off both “loose” bishops) 35. ... Qd2 36. Bd4 Bc3 with a dead draw after the bishops are exchanged.

B) 33. Bd4!? is the computer's recommendation, and requires equally insane pre-

cision from Black. The immediate 33. ... Bc5 runs into trouble after 34. Bxc5 bxc5 35. Bb5, when White will gradually pick off the c-pawn. Therefore, Black should start with 33. ... Ba3!, and only after 34. Rd1 play 34. ... Bc5. Following 35. Bxc5 Qxc5 36. Bd7 (FYI: White can actually start with the mind-boggling 35. Bd7) 36. ... Bxd7 37. Rxd7, Black is just in time with 37. ... f4! 38. exf4 e3 39. fxe3 Qxe3+ 40. Kh1 Qxf4, and White cannot make progress on account of the constant threat of perpetual.

30. ... Qd6?



To continue our GPS analogy, Swiercz recognizes that he must take the freeway, but goes in the wrong direction. More specifically, this move discourages b3-b4 because of ... Qd2, but it does not prevent it entirely. The right approach was to ... wait a minute. Now develop your own ability to think concretely: How can you counterbalance the impending onslaught? *The solution can be found on page 71.*

31. b4! Qd2 32. Rb1 axb4

This is forced, since the immediate 32. ... Ba2 is coolly rebuffed by 33. bxc5 Bxb1 34. cxb6! Qxb2 35. Rc5! (even more accurate than 35. Rc8+) 35. ... Qxa3 36. Rc8+ Kh7 37. b7.

33. axb4 Bxb4 34. Rc7

So far, all has gone according to plan for both players. At this point, the cowardly 34. ...

Bf7 would fail to keep the lid on due to 35. Bxc7! Kxc7 36. Be8, picking up the bishop with interest. Swiercz delivers what seems to be a shattering blow:

34. ... Ba2



It seems reasonable to surmise that Dariusz expected 35. Bc4+, leading to a familiar type of position after 35. ... Bxc4 36. Rxc4 f4!. That is indeed what my own GPS squarely indicated when I first looked at this position. However, it is easy to forget that White has assembled a massive attacking force, and all of his pieces—save the rook on b1—are entirely unburdened. As always, *tactics vincit omni*—the presence of a tactical sequence renders any sort of verbal evaluation or logical thinking futile.

35. Rxc7+ Kf8 36. Ra7!!

Simply divine. Not only is the mating net cast, but it is done with a simultaneous attack on Black's bishop. Following 36. ... Bxb1, the mating sequence is straightforward, yet quite gorgeous: 37. Bg7+ Kg8 38. Bc4+ Kh7 39. Be5+ Kg6 40. Rg7+ Kh5 41. Bf7+ Kh4 42. Bf6 mate.

36. ... Qc2 37. Rc1!, Black resigned.

The bishop is untouchable due to the back rank mate, so Black has no choice but to part ways with his queen.

By simply recognizing the incredibly complex nature of a most unbalanced endgame, we can come closer to optimizing our chess GPS. ♠

2019

World Amateur Team & U.S. Amateur Team Championship East



February 16-18, 2019

Parsippany Hilton, 1 Hilton Court,
Parsippany, NJ 07054



See TLA section of this issue
for complete details.
Please bring your set and clock
(and teammates!).



2018 US CHESS GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

	NAME	STATE	PTS.
1	GM FIDEL CORRALES JIMENEZ	MO	314.31
2	GM ILLIA NYZHNYK	MO	220.80
3	GM ALEXANDER SHABALOV	PA	219.64
4	GM ALEKSANDR LENDERMANN	NY	211.01
5	GM TIMUR GAREYEV	KS	202.32
6	GM SERGEY ERENBURG	PA	194.75
7	GM ALEX SHIMANOV	MO	181.75
8	GM SAMUEL SEVIAN	MA	179.97
9	GM ANDREY STUKOPIN	TX	154.12
10	GM ALEXANDER FISHBEIN	NJ	140.09
11	IM JOHN DANIEL BRYANT	CA	135.15
12	GM AWONDER LIANG	WI	113.18
13	GM RUIFENG LI	TX	111.38
14	GM NIKOLA MITKOV	IL	106.81
15	MIKA BRATTAIN	MA	105.84

2018 AWARDS

\$12,500
IN CASH PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE: \$5,000!

2nd: \$2,500 | 3rd: \$1,000

4th: \$900 | 5th: \$800

6th: \$700 | 7th: \$600

8th: \$500 | 9th: \$300

10th: \$200

The Grand Prix point totals reflect all rated event information as of December 10, 2018 for the 2018 Grand Prix.

2018 US CHESS JUNIOR GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

The top prize for 2018 is a *Chess.com* one-year Diamond membership valued at \$100, a *Chess.com* gear/merchandise package valued at \$100, a US Chess award, free entry into the 2019 U.S. Open, and \$1,000 of expense money from US Chess to offset the trip. For the top five players on the overall list and to each state winner, *Chess.com* also awards a choice of a one-year *ChessKid.com* gold membership (valued at \$50/annually) or a one-year *Chess.com* Gold membership (valued at \$40/annually). US Chess gratefully acknowledges the participation of *Chess.com*!

Name	State	Pts.	State Leaders	State	Pts.	State Leaders	State	Pts.
GANGAVARAPU, SREEKAR	IL	11366	KACZANOWSKI, AIDAN P	IN	5120	HENDERSON, JORDAN	OR	4269
KUNAMNENI, MEGHANA	MA	11001	MOERLIEN, PUWIT SKY	KS	3925	NARKEERAN, MADHAVAN	PA	6380
PHAM, LINDA	IL	9886	SHAWKAT, SAIF	KY	5128	VAIJAEPPAY, VAISHNAVI	RI	4566
FAN, JERRY	NY	9252	MAYEUX, BENJAMIN THOMAS	LA	4094	HELPERICH, LUCAS TYLER	SC	1830
YU, SICHENG	NY	8433	KUNAMNENI, SUJAY	MA	5471	TAO, ARTHUR	SD	1366
State Leaders	State	Pts.	GUO, ANDREW	MD	6591	VAZQUEZ MACCARINI, DANI	TERR	972
BRUNI, XAVIER	AL	3119	KALLOOR, DENNIS	ME	3842	ZHAO, ERIC	TN	4600
WENG, KAYLA	AR	1986	SONG, JUSTIN	MI	6943	OBEROI, SHELEV	TX	7451
REMPE, JONAS JAKOB RAZA	AZ	5542	KONEZNY, STUART	MN	3758	RAY, UJAN	UT	4007
MEIYAPPAN, KAVYA	CA-N	6162	ZHOU, CELINA	MO	8352	SU, KEVIN	VA	7125
ANDRANIGIAN, ARMEN	CA-S	6354	GRIFFIN, GABRIEL	MS	4695	COLLINS, ALEXANDER	VT	2943
BHAVIKATTI, NEIL	CO	2517	WALTHALL, THOMAS KASEY	MT	4450	CHANG, MICHELLE	WA	5216
SU, JASMINE ZHIXIN	CT	4918	DURBHA, ANTARA	NC	6724	PHIPPS, DANIEL	WI	6180
STEINER, ADAMSON	DC	6257	WICKLUND, JOHN	ND	502	ELLIS, ANYA	WV	2182
LUO, TERRY	DE	7708	KOLLI, SAI	NE	3157	MARES, ISAIAH	WY	501
WU, DERRICK K	FL	5541	TIRUVEEDHULA, SUHAVI	NH	2899			
MYDUKUR, AMIT	GA	8053	SHANKAR, PRANAV	NJ	8221			
CHEN, MARK Y A	HI	4669	LUO, DANIEL	NM	2190			
LODH, ANJALI	IA	5458	BAO, CHRIS	NV	2559			
SHEPARD, RIVER CHARLES	ID	3278	DE DONA, MARK	NY	7628			
CHIFLIKIAN, MICHAEL	IL	8043	SONI, ARJUN GORAKH	OH	6558			
			BARNES, MAXWELL	OK	3276			

Official standings for events received and processed by December 4, 2018.





National Events

Note: Tournament memberships not valid for National events

See TLA in this issue for details

2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South February 8-10 or 9-10 • Kissimmee, Florida

2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - North February 15-17 or 16-17 • Schaumburg, Illinois

2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - East February 16-18 • Parsippany, New Jersey

2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - West February 16-18 or 17-18 • Santa Clara, California

2019 U.S. Junior Chess Congress February 23-24 • Cypress, California

2019 National High School (K-12) Championship March 15-17 • Schaumburg, Illinois

2019 All-Girls National Championships April 12-14 • Chicago, Illinois

2019 National Junior High School (K-9) Championships April 26-28 • Grapevine, Texas

2019 U.S. Women's Open June 11-12 • Las Vegas, Nevada

2019 National Open June 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16 • Las Vegas, Nevada

2019 U.S. Senior Open June 28-30 • Naperville, Illinois

2019 U.S. Junior Open June 28-30 • Naperville, Illinois

FUTURE EVENTS (Watch for details)

2019 National Elementary School (K-6) Championships May 10-12 • Nashville, Tennessee

2019 U.S. Cadet (Invitational) Championship June 20-23 • Milpitas, California

2019 U.S. Game/10 Championship July 26 • Charlotte, North Carolina

2019 U.S. Game/30 Championship July 27 • Charlotte, North Carolina

2019 U.S. Game/60 Championship July 28 • Charlotte, North Carolina

120th annual (2019) U.S. Open August 3-11 • Orlando, Florida

2019 U.S. Class Championships September 27-29 • Santa Clara, California

2019 K-12 Grade Championships December 13-15 • Lake Buena Vista, Florida

2020 National High School (K-12) Championship April 3-5 • Memphis, Tennessee

2020 National Junior High School (K-9) Championships April 24-26 • Jacksonville, Florida

2020 National Elementary School (K-6) Championships May 8-10 • Nashville, Tennessee

121st annual (2020) U.S. Open August 8-16 • Saint Charles, Missouri

2020 K-12 Grade Championships December 11-13 • Orlando, Florida

2021 SuperNationals VII May 7-9 • Nashville, Tennessee

122nd annual (2021) U.S. Open July 31-August 8 • Cherry Hill, New Jersey

2021 K-12 Grade Championships December 3-5 • Orlando, Florida

2022 National High School (K-12) Championship April 8-10 • Memphis, Tennessee

2022 National Junior High School (K-9) Championships April 29-May 1 • Grapevine, Texas

2022 National Elementary School (K-6) Championships May 13-15 • Columbus, Ohio

123rd annual (2022) U.S. Open July 29-August 7 • Rancho Mirage, California

2022 K-12 Grade Championships December 9-11 • National Harbor, Maryland

2023 National Elementary School (K-6) Championships May 12-14 • Baltimore, Maryland

2023 K-12 Grade Championships December 15-17 • Washington, District of Columbia

Bids

Note: Organizers previously awarded options for US Chess National Events must still submit proposals (including sample budgets) for their events.

OVERDUE BIDS

Please contact the National Office if you are interested in bidding for a National Event. US Chess recommends that bids be submitted according to the following schedule. However, bids may be considered prior to these dates. US Chess reserves the right to decline all bids and organize the event itself.

For our expanded list of national events available for bid, see: www.uschess.org/content/view/12116/705/.

RATING SUPPLEMENTS

Rating supplements will be updated EACH MONTH on the US Chess website, and each monthly rating supplement will be used for all tournaments beginning in that month, unless otherwise announced in *Chess Life*. The US Chess website at www.uschess.org also frequently lists unofficial ratings. The purpose of unofficial ratings is to inform you of your progress; however, most tournaments do not use them for pairing or prize purposes. If you would otherwise be unrated, organizers may use your unofficial rating at their discretion, even without advance publicity of such a policy.

NOTE

The TLA pages "Information for Organizers, TDs, and Affiliates" and "Information for Players" can now be found online at main.uschess.org/go/tlainfo.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS HEALTH AND BENEFITS FUND

Many Grand Prix tournament organizers will contribute \$1 per player to the Professional Health & Benefits Fund. All Grand Prix tournaments which participate in this program are entitled to be promoted to the next higher Grand Prix category—for example, a six-point tournament would become a 10-point (Enhanced) tournament. Points in the top category are promoted 50%.

ATTENTION AFFILIATES

US Chess has partnered with R.V. Nuccio & Associates Insurance Brokers, Inc. to provide US Chess affiliates with affordable annual liability and short term event insurance. The liability coverage is available for approximately \$265 per year for a \$1,000,000 limit of insurance. Also available is contents property and bonding insurance. For more information, please go to www.rvnuccio.com/chess-federation.html. For event insurance, please go to www.rvnuccio.com.

The Tournament Announcements on the following pages are provided for the convenience of US Chess members and for informational purposes only. Unless expressly indicated otherwise, neither US Chess nor *Chess Life* warrants the accuracy of anything contained in these tournament announcements. Those interested in additional information about or having questions concerning any of these tournaments are directed to contact the organizer listed. *Chess Life* will exercise all due diligence in providing accurate typesetting of non-camera-ready copy but assumes no responsibility for errors made in such work.

Effective with TLAs submitted after November 10, 2010, the following additional rules apply to Grand Prix tournaments: 1) The guaranteed first prize must be at least \$150. 2) No more than one prize under \$100 may count towards the Grand Prix point total. 3) Prizes below the maximum entry fee do not count towards the Grand Prix point total. Also include full time control noting increment or time delay even if delay is zero (d0).

US Chess Junior Grand Prix: A Junior Grand Prix event must have four or more rounds with a time control greater than 65 min. Please see: www.uschess.org/data/page/JGP-Rules.php for complete Rules.

SUBMISSIONS: E-mail your TLA to: tla@uschess.org (Joan DuBois). For tla deadline schedule, formatting help and Grand Prix information check www.uschess.org/go/tlainfo and “Advertising” at uschess.org. Payment can be done online through the TD/Affiliate area or sent to: US Chess, TLA Dept., PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557.

Note: US Chess Junior Grand Prix events do not have to necessarily be Scholastic or Youth tournaments. They do, however, have to have the required number of rounds and time control in order for scholastic and youth players to gain JGP points for prizes. For more information, please see the JGP rules at <http://www.uschess.org/datapage/JGP-Rules.php>.

Nationals

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, FLORIDA

2019 U.S. AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP - SOUTH

5SS, G/120 d5 (2-day Option Rd. 1 G/60 d5). Ramada Gateway, 7470 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee, FL 34747. 4-player teams (with one optional alternate). **Minutes away** from Disney, Universal, etc. **February temperature mid-70's. Two sections** (each paired separately & with their own prizes). Team average (4 highest ratings - January Supplement) must be under 2200 for Open section & under 1500 for U1500 section. Winning team in Open section qualifies for National playoff online. **EF:** Per player: \$54 by 2/3, \$64 later. **SPECIAL EF:** Team (one entry must be made for all players) \$190 by 2/3, \$220 later (any team changes \$10). Teams from outside Florida will receive \$25 off team entry fee. Scholastic teams (same school) receive \$10 off team entry fee. **PRIZES:** Top 1st-3rd place teams & Top Boards 1-4 in each section; Top teams: Open section: U2000 & U1800; U1500 section: Top U1300 & U1000. Also in Open section: Top Senior team (all 50 & above as of 2/8), Top College team (same school). Also in U1500 section: Top Female team, Top High School team (same school), Top Middle School team (same school, grades 6-8), Top Elementary School team (same school). **Schedule:** 3-day: 1st Rd. Fri. 7:30, 2-Day 1st Rd. Sat. 10; Rds. 2-5 Sat. 1:30, 6:45, Sun. 9:30, 2:45. **HR:** Inn rooms: **\$57** until cut-off date, Tower rooms: **\$72** until cut-off date, Reservations can be made by calling 800-327-9170 (mention “chess tournament” for these special group rates). Free parking, Internet, refrigerator (Tower rooms also include a microwave), and transportation to Disney, Universal and other attractions. Group guests also receive 10% off at Hotel food facilities. **Ent:** Boca Raton Chess Club, 2385 NW Executive Ctr. Dr., Ste. 100, Boca Raton, FL 33431. **Online entry & addl info:** www.bocachess.com, 561-302-4377.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, ILLINOIS

2019 U.S. AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP - NORTH

Open: 5SS, G/90+30/increment, 2-day: rds. 1-2 G/60 d5. Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173. 847-605-1234, \$100.00 chess rate single-double-triple-quad until 2/4/19, Free WiFi included with Room! Please reserve early. Open to 4 player teams with one optional alternate. **Team average (4 highest ratings - January Rating List) must be under 2200. EF:** 3-day \$160, per team if received USPS or online 6 PM by February 1st, \$180 if received USPS or on-line 6 PM by Feb. 9, \$200 on-line until Feb. 15 6 PM and at door. Individuals wishing to play (note: we can guarantee you will play, but won't guarantee which schedule or the ratings of your team), send \$50 and request to be put on a team by USPS and on-line by 2/10 6 PM, \$60 thereafter. Team changes on site or after 2/15 6 PM \$20. **Check out official website www.chessweekend.com for more info and complete prize list. Prizes:** Awards to top 3 teams, top teams with average rating u1900, u1600, u1300, and U1000. Winning team qualifies for national play-offs. Awards for Best Team Name, best team composed of juniors (high school and younger), Top College team, Top HS team, Top Senior team (50 and over), Top Mixed doubles team, Best costume or theme. Prizes to top score on each board. Prizes are Amazon gift cards. **Rounds: 3-day:** onsite registration/check-in 5:30-6:30pm, rds.: 7pm, 10:00am & 4:00pm, 10:00am & 3:30pm. **2-day:** on-site registration/check-in from 8:00-9:30am, rds. 10:00am & 1:00pm then merge with 3-day. **Midwest Blitz Championship on Saturday night,** \$550 b/30 entries, \$25 by 2/13 USPS or on-line, \$30 at site. First round 8 PM, 2 games with each opponent, 5 rounds, see www.chessweekend.com for details. **All: Register at www.kingregistration.com** after 11/15/18. Checks made payable to and sent to: ChessWeekend, 21694 Doud Ct., Frankfort, IL 60423. Please include team's name and roster (plus ID#), captain's email and phone number, and desired schedule. **Info:** www.chessweekend.com, glenn@chessweekend.com no phone calls please. Boards and Sets will be provided, please bring clocks.

TOURNAMENT LIFE: ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS

All tournaments are non-smoking with no computers allowed unless otherwise advertised.

BLZ: Blitz rated.

QC: Quick Chess events.

\$\$Gtd: Guaranteed prizes.

\$\$b/x: Based-on prizes, x = number of entries needed to payfull prize fund. At least 50% of the advertised prize fund of \$501 or more must be awarded.

Bye: Indicates which rounds players who find it inconvenient to play may take 1/2-point byes instead. For example, Bye 1-3 means 1/2-point byes are available in Rounds 1 through 3.

CC: Chess club.

dx: Time delay, x = number of seconds.

+xx: Time increment, xx = number of seconds added after each move.

EF: Entry fee.

Ent: Where to mail entries.

FIDE: Results submitted to FIDE for possible rating.

G/: Game in. For instance, G/75 means each side has 75 minutes for the entire game.

GPP: Grand Prix Points available.

HR: Hotel rates. For example, 60-65-70-75 means \$60 single, \$65 twin, \$70/3 in room, \$75/4 in room.

JGP: Junior Grand Prix.

Memb. Membership required; cost follows. Usually refers to state affiliate.

Open: A section open to all. Often has very strong players, but some eligible for lower sections can play for the learning experience.

Quad: 4-player round robin sections; similar strength players.

RBO: Rated Beginner's Open.

Rds: Rounds; scheduled game times follow. For example, 11-5, 9-3 means games begin 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. on the first day, 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. on the second day.

Reg: Registration at site.

RR: Round robin (preceded by number of rounds).

SD/: Sudden-death time control (time for rest of game follows). For example, 30/90, SD/1 means each player must make 30 moves in 90 minutes, then complete the rest of the game in an hour.

SS: Swiss-System pairings (preceded by number of rounds).

Unr: Unrated.

W: Site is accessible to wheelchairs.

WEB: Tournaments that will use a player's online rating.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 16-18, NEW JERSEY

WORLD AMATEUR TEAM & 2019 U.S. TEAM EAST CHAMPIONSHIP

6SS, 40/2, SD/30 delay 5. Parsippany Hilton 1 Hilton Ct., Parsippany, NJ 07054. **Chess Rate valid until 1/17. Reserve early** 973-267-7373 or 1-800-HILTONS. Morris/Essex train to Morris Plains 1.5 miles. Open to 4-player teams with one optional alternate. Team average (4 highest ratings—2019 January Rating list) must be under 2200. EF: \$199 postmarked by 2/5/19. ALL-\$240 after or at door.—all teams, any changes at site \$25 charge. **ENTRY MAXIMUM IS 325 TEAMS. Enter early!** Check out official website www.njscf.org. **Prizes:** 1-5th Place teams, plaque and **4 digital clocks**; Top Team (**Denis Barry Award**) U2100, 2000, 1900, 1800, 1700, 1600, 1500, 1400, **1300**, 1200, 1000 each plaque and **4 Digital Clocks**; Top college team (same school) **4 Digital Clocks & plaque**; Top HS team (grades 9-12 same school), Top Middle School (grades 5-9 same school), Top Elementary School (grades K-6 same school), Top 2 Scholastic Teams (mixed schools okay) (**Collins Award**), Mixed Doubles (2 males, 2 females-no alternates), Seniors (all players over age 50), Military, each plaque & **4 Digital Clocks** to top team; Company Team (same employer), Family (4 family members), State teams—CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY (**Benjamin Award**), PA, VA, each plaque top team; Special Plaque: **Top Future team**, (all players under age 10), **Top Military College**, **Top Parent/Child** (2 pairs, one parent, one child), **Best Player 1-4 and top alternate**, All 6-0 scores each Digital clock. Biggest Individual upset each round Engraved Cross pen; Entry fee refunded to team with Best “Chess related” name, Sunday night—Best “Chess Related costumes or gimmick”—1st-gourmet dinner for four. 2nd—Gourmet dinner for 4. **Reg. 9-12 Sat 2/16: Rds. 1-7:30, 11-6, 9-3:30. Surprises and special give-aways each round.** Sunday night—Bughouse \$20 per team. Cash prizes. HR: Parsippany Hilton **NEWLY RENOVATED! NEW LIGHTS! HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING!** Chess rates expire 1/17/2019. Rates \$123(Single, Double) \$125 (Triple, Quad) 2nd hotel attached to Hilton \$130 per night (Single-Double) \$132 (Triple, Quad)-Hampton Inn—includes breakfast each day. For help forming teams and more information contact: noreenchess@gmail.com. Chks payable to **NJSCF**, mail by 2/05/19 to: **NJSCF, 17 Stonehenge Road, Morristown, NJ 07960.** (Include Team name, Captain, players full names, USCF Expiration, ID numbers and ratings in board order). No team can include more than two GM's. Include SASE for confirmation if wanted, No registered or certified mail accepted. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 16-18 OR 17-18, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

2019 (35TH ANNUAL) U.S. AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP - WEST

Scholastic on Feb. 16 only, Blitz on Feb 18 only. Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Pkwy. Free Parking! **Teams:** Four-player teams plus optional alternate, average rating of four highest must be under 2200, difference between ratings of board 3 & 4 must be less than 1000. January 2018 Supplement, CCA min, & TD discretion used to place players accurately. **Main Event Prizes:** Special 4 commemorative clocks and team trophy to the team for Top 3 overall teams, top team u2000, u1800, u1600, u1400, and u1200. Trophies to all players of the top “Female” team, top “College” team, top “High School” team, top “Elementary School” team, top “Club” team, and top “Family” team. Clocks to top scorer on each board (1-4), trophy to top reserve as well as second and third scorers on each board (1-4). Gift certificates for best 3 team names. **Main Event EF:** \$299/team or \$79/player by 2/10. 2/11-15: \$20 extra per player or \$80 per team & Onsite. A change fee equal to the late fee will apply for any changes, other than bye requests within 3 days of the tournament. **3-day Sched:** Onsite Registration @ Sat 9-10a, Round Times @ Sat & Sun 11a 4:30p, Mon 10a 3:30p. Time Control: 40/120 SD/30 d5. **2-day Sched:** Onsite Registration @ Sun 8-8:30a, Round Times @ Sun 9a 11:30a 2p 4:30p; Mon 10a 3:30p. Time Control: G/61 d5 in Rounds 1-3, 40/120 SD/30 d5 in Rounds 4-6 (merge in Round 4 with 3-day schedule). **Info/flyer:** www.BayAreaChess.com/usatw. **Scholastic Event Prizes:** Trophies to each player in Top 3 teams overall, Top u1200 team, u900 team, u600 team, u300 team. Trophies to top “Girls” team, top “School” team, and top “Club” team. Trophies to top two scorers on each board (1-4). Commemorative medals to all others. **Scholastic Event EF:** \$179/team or \$49/player by 2/11. 2/12-17: \$15 extra per player or \$60 per team & Onsite. **Sched:** Onsite Registration: Sat 8-9a. Games at Sat 10a, 11:30a, 1p, 2:20p, 3:40p. **Info/flyer:** www.BayAreaChess.com/usatws. **Blitz Event:** Registration Mon 6-7pm, Rounds 7:30-9:30pm. EF: \$14, \$16 onsite. 75% of entry fees returned as prizes. **Contact:** Organized by Judit Sztaray. Directed by Tom Langland, John McCumiskey, and others. Sponsored by Bay Area Chess. Online entry at www.BayAreaChess.com/my/usatw or mail to Bay Area Chess, 2050 Concourse Drive #42, San Jose, CA 95131. For questions or help in forming teams email ask@BayAreaChess.com. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 23-24, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

2019 U.S. JUNIOR CHESS CONGRESS

5SS, G/90 d5. Cypress Community Center; 5700 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 **6 Sections.** 6 & Under, 8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under. 14 & Under, 16/18 & Under (merged but with separate awards). February 2019 Rating Supplement will be used. Only one 1/2-point bye available, any round except Round 5, if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top three (minimum two) finishers from each club. First place individual and team, including ties, will be the National Champion for their grade. **Schedule:** Opening ceremony Saturday 9am. Rds.: Saturday 9:30am, 1pm, 4:30pm, Sunday 9:30am, 1:30pm. Awards Ceremony: Approximately 5 minutes after completion of final game in that section. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 12/20/19, \$75 postmarked or online from 12/21/18 – 2/9/19, \$90 on 2/10/19 or after; \$10.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$20 fee for roster or section changes after 2/22/19 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Saturday 2/23/19 from 8am – 8:45am. **Awards:** Trophies to top individuals & top clubs in each grade. Every player receives a commemorative medal! Full list of trophies on tournament info page. **Side Events: 1. Blitz Tournament:** 18 & Under, 12 & Under, G/5 d0, Saturday 8pm, Reg. onsite until 7:30pm. Blitz EF: \$20 by 2/9/19, \$25 on 2/10/19 or after. Trophies: Top 5 in each section. **2. Calculation Exercises Tournament:** Saturday 8pm, Sections: Open and Under 1200. Reg. onsite until

7:30pm. **EF:** \$25 by 2/9/19, \$30 on 2/10/19 or after. Puzzle Solving Awards: Trophies to top 5 in each section. **3. Saturday K/8 Non-Rated Capture The King Tournament (For Beginning Players):** For players never playing in a tournament, or maybe 1 tournament but not sure they are ready to compete in Main Event. No USCF membership req'd. 5 Rd-DSS (Play each opponent twice). Rounds: 9:30am, 10:45am, 12:45pm, 2pm, 3:15pm.. Trophies: Top 5 Individual + 1st Place Club (2 players needed, top 2 scores count). **EF:** \$30 by 2/9/19, \$40 on 2/10/19 or after. **4. Sunday Under 800 USCF Rated Tournament:** Grades K/12, USCF membership req'd. Ratings on 2/20/19 will be official ratings used for this tournament. G/30 d5. 5 Rounds: 9:30am, 10:45am, 12:45pm, 2pm, 3:15pm. Trophies: Top 5 Individual, 1st and 2nd Place Under 400, + 1st Place Club (2 players needed, top 2 scores count). **EF:** \$35 by 2/9, \$45 on 2/10/19 or after. **General Questions: Joe Hanley at 714-925-3195. Registration:** <https://www.hanleychessacademy.com/2019NJCC.html>. **See website for all information, rules & notes** about the event, advance entries, awards, tournament rules/notes, and flyer. <https://www.hanleychessacademy.com/2019NJCC.html>

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 15-17, ILLINOIS

2019 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (K-12) CHAMPIONSHIP

7SS, G/120 d5. Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center, 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60173. Hotel Chess Rate \$139 single/double, \$159 triple/quad. Guest rooms may be booked, NLT 2/19/2019 by calling (847) 303-4100 or (800) 468-3571, mention "US Chess", or online at: <https://book.passkey.com/go/USChess2019>. 6 Sections: K-12 Championship, K-12 U1900, K-12 U1600, K-12 U1200, K-12 U800 and K-12 Unrated. March Rating Supplement will be used. One 1/2-point bye available (limit one) any round if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top four (minimum two) finishers from each school per section. K-12 Championship first place individual and team, including ties, will be the National High School Champion. Schedule: Opening ceremony Fri. 12:45 pm. Rds.: Fri. 1 pm and 7 pm, Sat. 9 am, 2 pm and 7 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm. Awards Ceremony Sun., approx. 7 pm. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 2/25, \$80 postmarked or online by 3/4, \$95 online by 3/13, \$100 on site; \$10.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$30 fee for roster or section changes after 3/3 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Thurs. 9 AM - 9 PM & Fri. 8 AM -11 AM. Players who register or change sections after 11 am on Friday will receive a 1/2-point bye for Rd.1. Players must disclose any other, non-US Chess over-the-board (OTB) ratings. Awards: Trophies to top individuals & top teams in each section. Every player receives a commemorative item! Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. Side Events: Bughouse: Thurs. 11 am, Reg. onsite only Thurs. 9 -10 am, \$25/team. K-12 Blitz: Thurs. 5 pm, Reg. onsite until 4 pm. Blitz **EF:** \$20 by 3/26, \$25 after or at site. Class trophies will be awarded in main event and in Blitz. Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **General questions:** Contact Susan Kantor at 931.787.1234 ext. 136 or by email: skantor@uschess.org. **Team Room questions:** Contact Pete Karagianis at 931.200.9477 or by email: pete.karagianis@uschess.org. **Entries:** U.S. Chess Federation, Attn.: 2019 HS Championship, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557 or online at www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/hs. See web site for additional information about the event, advance entries, awards, meetings, team rooms, updates, corrections, and registration forms.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

APR. 12-14, ILLINOIS

2019 ALL-GIRLS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS PRESENTED BY THE KASPAROV CHESS FOUNDATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE RENAISSANCE KNIGHTS CHESS FOUNDATION & US CHESS *Any player that achieves a perfect 6-0 score or wins the first place trophy, in each age category, qualifies to represent the USA at the 2019 World Cadets (U/8, U10, U/12) / World Youth (U/14, U/16, U/18) Championships* 6SS, G/90 d5. Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, 2233 S. Martin Luther King Dr., Chicago, IL 60616, (free Wi-Fi). **6 Sections/Trophies: Age as of 1/1/2019 Under 8** top 15 individuals, top 500 – 799, top U500, top 6 schools, **Under 10** top 16 individuals, top 700 – 999, top U700, top 6 schools, **Under 12** top 16 individuals, top 900 – 1199, top U900, top 6 schools, **Under 14** top 12 individuals, top 1100 – 1399, top U1100, top 4 schools, **Under 16** top 8 individuals, Top 1300 – 1599, top U1300, top 3 schools, **Under 18** top 8 individuals, Top 1500 – 1799, top U1500, top 3 schools, (top 3 players added for team scores). **EF:** \$65 mail/online by 3/11 \$85 by 4/1, \$95 after. Do not mail after 4/5. \$20 fee for roster or section changes after 4/5. \$10 fee for refunds. **Onsite Registration** Fri 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Sat 7:30 - 8:30 AM. **Opening Ceremony:** Fri 2:30pm. **Rounds:** Rd. 1 – Fri 3:00pm Rounds 2-4 – Sat 10:00am, 2:30pm, 6:30pm; Rounds 5-6 – Sun 9:00am & 1:00pm. **Awards:** 5:00pm. **Bye:** One 1/2 point bye available for any round, except round 6, if requested at least 2 hours before the start of the round 1. **Side Events: Bughouse Tournament** – Fri. 11:00 am, **EF** \$35/team. **Blitz Tournament** – Fri. 7pm, G5,d0, **EF** \$25 by 4/5, \$30 after or on site. **HR:** single - quad \$165 Reservations: (888) 421-1442. Reserve early rate may increase / sell out. **Entries:** online/info at: www.rknights.org/allgirls or mail to RKnights, attn: All-Girls, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065, include name, section, rating, USCF ID#, date of birth, grade, school name city & state.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

APR. 26-28, TEXAS

2019 NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (K-9) CHAMPIONSHIP 7SS, G/120 d5. Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hotel Chess Rate \$155. Guest rooms may be booked, NLT 4/4/2019 by calling (877) 382-7299 or (817) 778-2000, mention "US Chess" or see www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/jhs/ to book now! **6 Sections:** K-9 Championship, K-9 U1250, K-9 Unrated, K-8 Championship, K-8 U1000 and K-8 U750. April Rating Supplement will be used. Maximum one 1/2-point bye available any round if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top four (minimum two) finishers from each school per section. K-9 Championship first place individual and team, including ties, will be the National Junior High School Champion. **Schedule:** Opening ceremony Fri. 12:45 pm. Rds.: Fri. 1 pm and 7 pm, Sat. 9 am, 2 pm and 7 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm. Awards Ceremony Sun., approx. 7 pm. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 3/25, \$80 postmarked

or online by 4/15, \$95 online by 4/24, \$100 on site; \$10.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$30 fee for roster or section changes after 4/12 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Thurs. 9 AM - 9 PM & Fri. 8 AM - 11 AM. Players who register or change sections after 11 am on Friday will receive a 1/2-point bye for Rd. 1. Players must disclose any other, non-US Chess, over-the-board (OTB) ratings. **Awards:** Trophies to top individuals & top teams in each section. Every player receives a commemorative item! Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **Side Events:** Bughouse: Thurs. 11 am, Reg. onsite only Thurs. 9 -10 am, \$25/team. K-9 Blitz: Thurs. 5 pm, Reg. onsite until 4 pm. Blitz **EF:** \$20 by 4/4, \$25 after or at site. Class trophies will be awarded in main event and in Blitz. Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **General questions:** Contact Susan Kantor at 931.787.1234 ext. 136 or by email: skantor@uschess.org. **Team Room questions:** Contact Pete Karagianis at 931.200.9477 or by email: pkaragianis@uschess.org. **Entries:** U.S. Chess Federation, Attn.: 2019Gay JHS Championship, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557 or online at www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/jhs/. See web site for additional information about the event, advance entries, awards, meetings, team rooms, updates, corrections, and registration forms.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JUNE 11-12, NEVADA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)

2019 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

5SS, G/90, +30. Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino, 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas 89109. **\$\$\$500 Guaranteed Prize Fund.** \$1000-600-400, U2000 \$350-200, U1800 \$250-150, U1600 \$200-100, U1400 \$150-100. **EF:** \$99 by 5/23, \$125 later. **REG.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **RDS.:** 9:30-2:30-7, 9:30-2:00. Half point bye available in any round (limit 1). **HR:** \$69 (\$95 Friday and Saturday nights) (800) 732-7117 ask for the **CHESS** rates. This event kicks off the **LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL** on Tuesday before the **National Open**. **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925 or online at www.VegasChessFestival.com. FIDE. W.

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, NEVADA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 300 (ENHANCED)

2019 NATIONAL OPEN

Open Section June 12-16: 9-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30. GM & IM norms possible. **Under Sections June 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16:** 7-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30 (3-day rounds 1-2 G/60, +10, 2-day rounds 1-4 G/30, +5). **Beginners Section June 14, 15, and 16:** 6-SS G/30, +5. Westgate Resort & Casino, 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas 89109. **\$\$\$100,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund** will not be reduced! In 8 sections, top 2 FIDE rated. **Open:** \$8,000-4,000-2,000-1,000-600-500-400-300-300-300, top under 2500 \$2,500, top under 2400 \$2,400, **Extra** \$2,500 divided among GMs, WGMs and foreign IMs winning less than \$250 and playing 9 rounds. The winner of the Open section also receives a replica of the Edmondson Cup. **Under 2300:** \$6,000-3,000-1,500-750-400-350-300-250-250-250. **Under 2100:** \$6,000-3,000-1,500-750-400-350-300-250-250-250. **Under 1900:** \$5,000-2500-1250-600-350-300-250-250-250-250. **Under 1700:** \$4,000-2,000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1500:** 3000-1500-700-350-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1300:** \$2000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250, top under 1000 (no provisional) \$900. Provisionally rated players may not win an amount greater than 40% of top prize in any under section; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Beginners** (unrated or provisionally rated under 1300): 3 schedules with 6 rounds per day \$200-125-75 each day plus \$300 overall (best 2 results). Unrated players may play only in Beginners or Open Section. **Plus-Score Bonus:** (\$12,000 guaranteed) in addition to any other prizes, every player with a plus score wins a \$50 gift certificate. Plus score certificates will be awarded on site only. **Mixed Doubles:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$1,500-750-350-250-150. Average rating below 2200, teammates may play in different sections, only rounds 1-7 count for Open Section or best day for Beginners. **The Freddie:** Players age 14 and under are eligible for best game prizes including the Freddie Award and \$400 in cash prizes (donated by Fred Gruenberg). CCA minimum ratings or other ratings may be used if higher than US Chess June Supplement. **EF:** Open: \$239 by 4/30, \$259 by 6/11, \$280 later. \$125 more for players rated below 2200. GM, WGM & foreign IM free. \$80 less for IM, WIM, foreign FM/WFM. Under sections: \$239 by 4/30, \$259 by 6/11, \$280 later. Beginners: \$125 1 day, \$189 2 days, \$229 3 days. \$30 more after 6/11. All: Early Bird Loyalty discount \$40 less for players who have played in 2 of the last 10 National Opens and enter before 1/31. Senior over 65 \$40 less by 6/11. **Open Reg:** 5-6 p.m. Wednesday. **Rds.:** 7:30, 1-7:30, 11-5:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30. 4-day schedule: **Reg.:** 2-6 p.m. Thursday. **Rds.:** 7:30, 11-5:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30. 3-day schedule: **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30 a.m. Friday. Rds. 10:30-1:30 then merge with 4-day in round 3 at 5:30. 2-day schedule: **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. Saturday. **Rds.:** 9:30-11-1-2:30 then merge with 4-day in round 5 at 4:30. Half point byes available in rounds 1-7; Sunday byes must be requested before the start of round 2 and may not be cancelled. Chess sets and boards provided for tournament play only, not for skittles. Please bring digital chess clocks! The **LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL** features the National Open, the U.S. Women's Open, the International Youth Championship, and other events. **Many free extras and surprises! Free** parking. **Free** raffles with great prizes. **Free** GM Lectures. **Free** GM analysis of your games. **Free** Daily Bulletins. **Grandmaster Simuls and Chess Camp** for all ages on Thursday. **U.S. Women's Open** Tuesday and Wednesday. **Walter Browne Memorial Blitz** Saturday 10:30 p.m. **Youth Tournaments** Friday, Saturday & Sunday. **Blitz** Sectionals Friday & Sunday. **Poker Tournament** Monday Morning. **Don't be shut out** - make your reservations early and be sure to ask for the CHESS group (SVCF9-R) rates — \$69 single or double (\$95 Friday and Saturday nights) guarantees a premium room with new furniture, refrigerator, flat screen TV and more. The resort fee including access to the Fitness Center, free WI-FI, and more is substantially discounted for our group. **Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 23; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.** (800) 732-7117 or www.VegasChessFestival.com/hotel. **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925, online at www.VegasChessFestival.com. **Info:** (702) 930-9550 and leave a message. FIDE. W.

JUNE 28-30, ILLINOIS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40

2019 U.S. SENIOR OPEN

6SS, G/90 +30, must be 50 years old by June 28. North Central College, Harold and Eva White Activities Center ("WAC"), 325 E. Benton Ave., Naperville, IL 60540. \$55 chess rate dorm single, \$100 double; \$145 triple by 5/31, \$10 more per person thereafter, (No taxes/tips for dorm rooms) see www.cavemanchess.com/events for info on nearby hotels (23 within 2.5 miles). Reserve early! June supplement. **EF:** \$100 rec'd by USPS or online by 12/31 7:00 p.m. CT; \$110 rec'd by USPS or online by May 31, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$120 rec'd by USPS or online until June 14, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$130 rec'd by USPS or online until June 27, 7:00 p.m. CT & at door. www.cavemanchess.com for more info & complete details. **Prizes:** \$8,000 b/100 paid entries: \$1,500; \$1,000; \$700; \$500; U2400: \$500-\$300; U2200: \$400-\$200; U2000: \$400-\$200; U1800: \$400-\$200; U1600: \$300-\$150; U1400: \$300-\$150; U1200: \$300-\$150; U1000: \$200-\$150; Unrated eligible for overall or U1200 prizes only. Plaque to top in each age group: 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75+. Players may win both cash & age awards. One Bye 1-6, must commit by end of rd. 2. **Reg.:** 11-12:30, **Rds.:** Fri 1:00pm & 6:00pm; Sat 9:30am & 3:00pm; Sun 8:30am & 2:00pm. **Side events:** Thu eve, GM Simul, GM Lecture, Saturday Blitz after R4. See website for details & more possible events. (Possible spouse events, possible awards dinner after Rd. 6, possible meal plan) Free WiFi on campus. Caveman Chess Camp 6/23-28; adult-only camp sections available, see website for details. **Ent:** Caveman Chess, LLC, 27 Morris St., Park Ridge, IL 60068, see online form, or send name, address, phone, email and birthdate, or online at www.cavemanchess.com; Checks payable to: Caveman Chess, LLC. **Info:** www.cavemanchess.com. No checks after 6/14. 847-430-6798. Caveman Chess provides sets, boards; please bring clocks. See website for terms & conditions.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JUNE 28-30, ILLINOIS

2019 U.S. JUNIOR OPEN

6SS, G/90 +30. North Central College, Wentz Science Center—Ratio Hall, 125 S. Loomis St., Naperville, IL 60540. \$55 chess rate dorm single, \$100 double; \$145 triple by 5/31, \$10 more per person thereafter, (No taxes/tips for dorm rooms) see www.cavemanchess.com/events for info on nearby hotels (23 within 2.5 miles). Reserve early! June supplement. **EF:** \$60 rec'd by USPS or online by 12/31 7:00 p.m. CT; \$70 rec'd by USPS or online by May 31, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$80 rec'd by USPS or online until June 14, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$95 rec'd by USPS or online until June 27, 7:00 p.m. CT & at door. **Sections (based on age as of 1/1/19):** U21, U15, U11, U8. www.cavemanchess.com/events for more info and complete details. **Prizes:** U21 \$300 plus, for firstmost only, if eligible, entry in the 2020 U.S. Jr. Closed Championship including \$200 cash; plaques to top 5 overall; & to top age 18, 17, 16, 15, U15; U15 plaques to top 10 overall, top age 14, 13, 12, 11, U11; U11 plaques to top 10 overall, & to top age 10, 9, 8, U8; U8 plaques to top 10 overall, plaques to top age 7, 6, U6. **Team prizes:** Plaques to top 3 school teams in each section, top 3 scores count as team score. One Bye 1-6, must commit by end of rd. 2. **Reg.:** 11-12:30, **Rds.:** Fri 1:00pm & 6:00pm; Sat 9:30am & 3:00pm; Sun 8:30am & 2:00pm. Side events: Thu eve, GM Simul, GM Lecture, Saturday Blitz after R4. See website for details & more possible events. (Possible adult events, possible meal plan.) Free WiFi on campus. Caveman Chess Camp 6/23-28; premier camp see website for details. **Ent:** Caveman Chess, LLC, 27 Morris St., Park Ridge, IL 60068, see online form, or send name, address, phone, email and birthdate, or online at www.cavemanchess.com; Checks payable to: Caveman Chess, LLC. No checks after 6/14. **Info:** www.cavemanchess.com. 847-430-6798. Caveman Chess provides sets, boards; please bring clocks. See website for terms and conditions.

Grand Prix

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 12-13, DELAWARE

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

DEWEY BEACH OPEN

Hyatt Place, 1301 Coastal Highway, Dewey Beach, DE 19971. Special room rates (Rooms will be discounted to \$109/ night & includes full breakfast mention Chess rate for room by Dec 22). 302-581-3314. Saturday night event, wine & craft beer tasting. Chess Vendors. Indoor heated pool and fitness ctr. 5-SS all sections. G/90 d5. **Open:** \$600, \$300, \$150, U2200 \$150, U2000 \$150, U1800 \$150, **U1600** \$400, \$240, \$140, U1400 \$140, U1200 \$140, U1000 \$140. Top winner also gets a free night stay in the off-season and a crystal Trophy. **Special DE Resident ScholasticTrophies:** Top player for Grade 9-12, Grade 6-8, Grade K-5 in both sections. **Reg.:** Advanced reg: Delaware Chess Association, 2400 N. Broom St., Apt. 203, Wilmington, DE 19802. 302-893-9519. TD: William Trueman, John Anderson. On-site Reg.: 8am - 9am. **EF:** Free entry to GM's and IM's (\$50 deducted from prizes), \$70 by 1/06, \$80 at the site. **Rds:** Sat.10, 2, 6, Sun. 9, 1. **Half point Byes:** 2 available. **\$ prizes** b/40 in each section. **Email:** trueman56@gmail.com

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 14-16, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

2019 KERES MEMORIAL FIDE

(A sponsored event) 5SS, G/90' (with incr. 30"/move, starting from move 1. Two sections. OPEN & U2000. FIDE & USCF rated. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **EF (Open):** \$75 (extra \$25 non-LACC mbrs). Siblings, new members, no prizes 1/2. **EF (U2000):** \$55 (extra \$20 non-LACC mbrs). **Reg.:** Fri 6-7 pm. **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat & Sun 11 & 4 pm. Max two byes; request by Rd. 3. **Prizes:** \$11,800 (b/40) \$1,000 Gtd. OPEN: 1st-3rd \$500 (Grtd.)-250-150. U2250: \$150; U2000: \$250-125. U1800: \$150-75; U1600: \$100; U1400/U: \$50 Book prizes; 3 door raffles to players playing all 5 games. Free for GMs, WGMs, IMs; unless win prizes. **Info:** (310) 795-5710; Mick@LACheSSClub.com or www.LACheSS-Club.com. **Parking:** Free on streets or BoA. **Register Online:** www.LAChessClub.com and receive a free book! **Note:** slight change from what appeared in December 2018 Chess Life.

JAN. 15, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

MARSHALL MASTERS

4-SS, G/25 d5. Open to players rated 2000+ . FIDE Rapid rated. **\$1,100 GTD:** \$400-200; top U2400, U2300, U2200: \$150; Biggest upset: \$50. **EF:** \$30; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 18-20 OR 19-20, ILLINOIS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 60 (ENHANCED)

CHICAGO CHESS CENTER 2ND JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL \$5,300 GUARANTEED! \$8,100 B/120 PAID

Student Center East, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago, 750 S. Halsted, Chicago IL 60607. *In 7 Sections, 2 schedules:* **Hull House Open:** Top section prizes 100% guaranteed! **FIDE.** 5SS, 40/100, SD/30; +30. **Rds:** Fri. 7, Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.12, \$109 onsite. U2100 \$20 more. GMs, WGMs, IMs, WIMs free with advance registration. **\$\$Gtd:** \$1000- 500-250-150, U2300 \$400-200. EF based on US Chess rating; pairings & prizes based on FIDE rating. **Under 2100:** 5SS, 40/100, SD/30; +30, **Rds.:** Fri. 7, Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.12, \$109 onsite. U1900 \$20 more. \$ \$b/120 paid \$560-280-160. **Under 1900:** 5SS, 40/100, SD/30; +30, **Rds.:** Fri. 7, Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.12, \$109 onsite. U1700 \$20 more. \$ b/120 paid: \$560-280-160. **Under 1700:** 5SS, 40/100, SD/30; +30, **Rds.:** Fri. 7, 10-4, Sun. 10-4. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.12, \$109 onsite. U1500 \$20 more. \$ \$b/ 120 paid: \$560-280-160. **Under 1500:** 6SS, G/65 d5. **Rds.:** Sat. 10:15-2-5, Sun. Sat. 10:15-2-5. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.12, \$109 onsite. U1300 \$20 more. \$ \$b/120 paid: \$560-280-160. **Under 1300:** 6SS, G/65 d5, **Rds.:** Sat. 10:15-2-5, Sun. Sat. 10:15-2-5. **EF:** \$79, \$95 after Jan.19, \$109 onsite. \$ \$b/120 paid: \$560-280-160. **Under 1000:** 6SS, G/65 d5, **Rds.:** Sat. 10:15-2-5, Sun.10:15-2-5. **EF:** \$59, \$65 after Jan.12, \$79 onsite. \$ \$b/120 paid: \$300-200-100. **ALL:** ENT: www.chichess.org/events. REG.: Fri. 5:30 to 6:30 or Sat 8:30-9:30 Sat. Reentry: \$50. NO PHONE ENTRIES. Sets, boards, clocks supplied by Chicago Chess Center! Byes: Limit 2 (limit 3 in U1500/U1300/U1000), must commit before rd. 2; 2nd Sun. bye counts as 0.4 towards prizes. INFO: chichess.org/events, Bill Brock (773) 294-1709, info@chichess.org. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, MARYLAND

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30

CHESAPEAKE OPEN

7SS, 40/90, SD/30 + 30” incr, (Rnd. 1 G/90 +30” incr) (3-day schedule: rds. 1-2 G/45+30”incr); U1250 & U1000 G/90 d5 (rds. 1&2 G/45 d5) (U1250 & U1000 2-day schedule, rds. 1-4 G/30 d5) Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. \$\$Based on score. 7 sections: Championship (min. rating of 2000) FIDE: 7.0= \$2200, 6.5= \$1600, 6.0= \$1100, 5.5= \$700, 5.0= \$350, 4.5= \$125, 4.0= \$50 [min \$1500 payout, top score group raised if less than \$1500]. U2100 (FIDE: min rating 1700)= 7.0= \$2100, 6.5= \$1400, 6.0= \$1000, 5.5= \$600, 5.0= \$300, 4.5= \$100, 4.0= \$30. U1900: 7.0= \$2000, 6.5= \$1300, 6.0= \$800, 5.5= \$500, 5.0= \$275, 4.5= \$100. U1700: 7.0= \$2000, 6.5= \$1200, 6.0= \$750, 5.5= \$450, 5.0= \$225, 4.5= \$100. U1500: 7.0= \$1800, 6.5= \$1000, 6.0= \$600, 5.5 \$400, 5.0= \$200, 4.5= \$80. U1250: 7.0= \$1200, 6.5= \$700, 6.0= \$350, 5.5= \$225, 5.0= \$120, 4.5= \$50. U1000 (no adult UNR): 7.0= \$500, 6.5= \$325, 6.0= \$175, 5.5= \$100, 5.0= \$55, 4.5= \$30. Trophies to top 10 & top U800 in U1000. **Additional prizes to clear 1st place, if no 7.0 in section (added to score prize)** - Championship: \$400; U2100 \$300, U1900 \$250, U1700 & U1500: \$200; U1250 \$150, U1000 \$50. Unrated may not win over \$100 in U1000, \$200 U1250, or \$400 in U1500. **Sets and clocks provided in all sections. Optionally, pairings can be texted to your phone. Free Monday morning continental breakfast for players.** Free parking for day guests. EF: \$119 by 1/4, \$124 by 1/15, and \$129 online only by 1/17, \$140 later. Special EFs: \$40 less for U1250, \$60 less for U1000; GMs free, \$50 deducted from prize; IMs \$45 less, \$20 deducted from prize. HR: \$99, (\$5 EF discount if staying at hotel @ group rate). Rooms may not be avail after 1/4. 4-day schedule (Champ-U1500): Reg. ends Fri 7pm, rds. Fri 8, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 9:30 & 3:30. 3-day schedule (Champ-U1500): Reg. ends Sat 10am rds. 11, 2:15 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 9:30 & 3:30. U1250 & U1000 3-day schedule Reg. ends Sat 10am rds. 11, 1, & 3:00, Sun 11&3:00, Mon 9:30 & 12:45. U1250 & U1000 2-day schedule: reg ends Sun 9am rds. Sun 10, 11:15, 12:30, 1:45, 3:00, Mon 9:30 & 12:45. Ent: Michael Regan, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd., Towson, MD 21204. Detailed rules, more information and registration at http://thechesapeakeopen.com.

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 100 (ENHANCED)

51ST ANNUAL LIBERTY BELL OPEN

7SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (3 day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10, 2-day option in U2100 to U1250, rds. 1-4 G/30 d10). **Sonesta Hotel**, 1800 Market St., Philadelphia 19103. **Prizes \$20,000** based on 320 paid entries (re-entry, GMs/IMs & U1250 section count 70%), else in proportion, except minimum 75% of each prize guaranteed. From 2006 to 2018, there were over 320 paid entries each year and the prizes were increased to over \$20,000, in proportion. In 6 sections. **Major (1800/up):** \$2000-1200-600-400-300, 1st clear or on tiebreak \$100 bonus, top Under 2300 \$1000-500. FIDE. **Under 2100:** \$1200-600-400-300-200. **Under 1900:** \$1200-600-400-300-200. **Under 1700:** \$1000-500-400-300-200. **Under 1500:** \$1000-500-400-300-200. **Under 1250:** \$700-400-300-200-100. **Unrated** may enter any section, but may not win over \$100 in U1250, \$200 U1500, or \$300 U1700. **Mixed doubles:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$1000-600-400. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both begin round 2. **Top 5 sections EF:** \$108 online at chessaction.com by 1/16, 4-day \$114, 3-day \$113, 2-day \$112 if check mailed by 1/9, \$130 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before rd. 1. GMs & IMs free, \$80 deducted from prize. **U1250 Section EF:** All \$30 less than top 5 sections EF. **All:** Unofficial

uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 yr USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry** (no Major to Major) \$70. **4-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 12 & 6, Sun 12 & 6, Mon 10 & 3:30. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 11 am, rds. Sat 12, 3 & 6, Sun 12 & 6, Mon 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule (no Major Section):** Reg. ends Sun. 9 am, rds. Sun 10-12-2-3:45-6, Mon 10-3:30. **Bye:** all, limit 3, Major must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 4. **HR:** \$107-107-107-107, 1-800-SONESTA, 215-561-7500, request Continental Chess rate, reserve by 1/4 or rate may increase. **Parking:** Chess rate at Sonesta approx. \$20/day (half of normal rate). 1540 Spring St., 12 minutes walk, is about \$7/day Sat & Sun, \$20 other days. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD# D657633 or reserve through chess tour.com. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Questions: DirectorAtChess.US, www.chesstour.com, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entering). **Blitz tournament** Sun. 10 pm, enter by 9:45 pm.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

10TH ANNUAL GOLDEN STATE OPEN

7SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (3-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10, 2-day option except in Major Section, rds. 1-4 G/30 d10). Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Dr., Concord, CA 94520 (free BART shuttle often available). **Prizes \$25,000 unconditionally guaranteed.** In 5 sections. **Major,** open to 1800/up. \$3000-1500-700-500-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100, top U2300 \$1000-500. FIDE. **Under 2100:** \$1700-900-500-300-200, top U1900 \$800-400. **Under 1800:** \$1700-900-500-300-200, top U1600 \$600-300. **Under 1500:** \$1400-700-400-300-200, top U1300 \$400-200. **Under 1200:** \$1000-500-400-300-200, top U1000 \$200-100. **Unrated** prize limits: U1200 \$200, U1500 \$350, U1800 \$500. **Mixed doubles:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$1000-500-300. Must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2. **Top 4 sections EF:** \$138 online at chessaction.com by 1/16, 4-day \$144, 3-day \$143, 2-day \$142 mailed by 1/9, all \$160 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before round 1. GMs \$120 from prize. **U1200 Section EF:** \$30 less than top 4 sections entry fee. **All:** Special 1 yr USCF with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. Re-entry (no Major to Major) \$60. Online EF \$5 less to CalChess members. **4-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 12 & 6, Sun 12 & 6, Mon 10 & 3:30. **3-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Sat 11 am, rds. Sat 12, 3 & 6, Sun 12 & 6, Mon 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Sun 9 am, rds. Sun 10, 12, 2, 3:45 & 6, Mon 10 & 3:30. No 2-day Major Section. **Byes:** OK all, limit 2; Major must commit before rd. 3, others before rd. 4. **Unofficial uschess.org**ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Foreign player ratings:** See chesstour.com/foreignratings.htm. **HR:** \$117-117-127, 877-286-8389, 925-825-7700, reserve by 1/4 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Questions: chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. Bring set, board, clock if possible; none supplied. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (online entries posted instantly). **Blitz tournament** Sun 10 pm, enter by 9:45 pm.

JAN. 19, MASSACHUSETTS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

BOYLSTON CHESS FOUNDATION POLAR VORTEX

4SS, G/60 d5. **Sections:** Open & U1900. **Entry fee:** \$35, \$20 for BCF members, \$5 more if not registering before 9:00am on January 19. **Prizes:** \$400 GUARANTEED: Open \$150-\$100-50, U1900 \$100. **Registration:** 9:15am – 9:45am. **Rounds:** 10:00am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:00pm. Address: Boylston Chess Foundation, 40 Norris St., Suite B101, Cambridge, MA 02140. Phone: 617-714-3022. E-mail:boylstonchess@gmail.com Register at: boylstonchess.org

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 19-21 OR 20-21, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 100 (ENHANCED)

5TH ANNUAL DREAMING KING OPEN

6-SS, 5 Sections, G/100, +30 (2-day schedule rds. 1 - 3 are G/45 d5). Marriott San Diego Airport/Liberty Station, 2592 Laning Rd., San Diego, CA 92106 (www.marriott.com/sanal). **\$\$13,000 Guaranteed prize fund.** **Prizes: Open Section:** \$1,800-1,300-900-600-400-200, U2300 \$800-500. **U2100, U1900, U1700 Sections,** all \$800-500-300-200, **U1500 Section:** \$300-200, BU1300 \$300-150, BU1100 \$100, Book Prize for Best Unr in each section. Plus Best Game Prize: \$50. Jan. official rating list will be used. Fines: \$5 for cell phone violations and possible \$25 for forfeits at TD discretion. **Reg.:** **3-day:** 8:30 - 9:30 AM on Sat, **2-day:** 8 - 9 AM on Sunday. **Rds.:** **3 day:** 10 AM & 4 PM all 3 days. **2- day:** 9:30 AM, 11:30, 1:30 PM & 4:00 PM (merged) on Sunday, then 10 AM & 4 PM on Monday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday). **EF:** \$90 if received by 11/30/18 (Early Bird Special), or \$100 between 12/01/18 and 1/10/19, \$120 after 1/10/19 and \$140 late registration at door on 1/19/19. No credit cards at door, checks or cash only. Special rate of only \$75 if U1500 or unrated. GMs, WGMs, IMs and WIMs all play for free, but \$100 deducted from any prize winnings. Re-entry from 3-day to 2-day: \$75, for players rated U2300 only. This event will NOT be FIDE rated, sorry. SCCF membership req'd (\$18 Adult, \$13 Jr, or \$3 for Jr w/o mag) for all So Cal residents. Two byes allowed, but must be requested at least 1 hour before rd. and last round byes must be requested before Rd. 3 & are irrevocable. Jan. rating list used. **Ent:** SDCC, PO Box 120162, San Diego, CA 92112 or enter online at www.sccchess.com. For more info call Chuck Ensey at (858) 432-8006, or email me at chucnglo@aol.com. **Hotel Rates:** book online or call 619-221-1900, Special rate of \$135 if booked by 12/15, but rates will rise and rooms will sell out at this small hotel so please book early.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 19-21 OR 20-21, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80

1ST MANHATTAN CLASSICAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

5-SS, G/90 +30 OPEN, 6 SS all other sections. Stewart hotel, 371 7th Ave., New York, NY 10001. Open section FIDE rated. **\$21,000 GTD: OPEN** \$2000 + trophy-1000-500-250-150, clear first \$200 U2300 FIDE: \$300-150, **U2100:** \$1,400 + tr - \$700 - \$350 - \$200; U1950: \$300-\$150 **U1800:** \$1,300 + tr - \$650 - \$350 - \$200; U1650: \$300-\$150 **U1500:** \$1,200 + tr - \$600 - \$300 - \$150; U1350: \$300-\$150 **U1200:** \$1,100 + tr - \$550 - \$300 - \$150; U1000: 7 trophies + medals top 7. \$800 random prizes give away! Brilliancy Prize: \$100; Scholastic team prizes (3 players per team from any sections and any schools, average rating 1600 or under). The teams need to be created before round 2. 1st place: \$400; 3rd place: \$200;2nd place: \$300; 4th place: \$100; In sections U2100 – U1200: 3 first personal scholastic trophies in each section; **OPEN EF:** \$149 by 11/18; \$169 by 12/26; \$189 by 01/18; \$200 on site. GMs: free, \$100 deducted from prize; IM and WGM: \$100; Re-entry: \$100. EF U2100; U1800; U1500; U1200; U1000; EF: \$149 by 12/22; \$165 by 01/18; \$180 on site. U1000: \$50 by 12/29; \$55 by 01/18; \$60 on site. Scholastic: \$100. **Rds.:** **Open:** 5SS, FIDE rated 3 days: Fri: 7pm; Sat & Sun: 9am & 1:30pm (G/90 +30); 2 days: Sat: 9am & 11:15am (G/55 d10) 1:30pm; Sun: 9am; 1:30pm (G/90 +30). **All other sections (U2100; U1800; U1500; U1200; U1000) 6 games Regular:** Sat & Sun: 10am & 12:30pm; 3pm (G/55 d10); **Special:** Sat: 6pm; 7:15pm (G/25 d5); Sun: 9am (G/25 d5); 10am; 12:30; 3pm (G/55 d10). **Scholastic (16 y.o. and younger, 1 day option):** first 2 rounds 2 byes and then Sun: 9am (G/25 d5); 10am; 12:30; 3pm (G/55 d5). Byes: 1 bye is ok for Open section, but need to commit before rd. 3. All other sections 2 byes are ok, commit before rd. 3. **Side tournaments:** Friday, Jan 19: Rapid U2000, 4SS, G/25 d5; EF: \$40; \$20 (main tournament participants). Schedule: 6pm; 7:15; 8:30; 9:45pm. Prizes: \$300 - \$150 - \$100 - \$50; U1800: \$100; U1500: \$50. Saturday, Jan 20: Rapid, 4SS, G/25 d5. EF: \$40; \$20 (main tournament participants). Schedule: 6pm; 7:15; 8:30; 9:45pm. Players can join round 3 from main tournament 2 day special schedule, but need to be register to rapid before round **pr** \$600 - \$300 - \$150; U2100: \$100; U1800: \$80; U1500: \$50.Sunday, Jan 21: Blitz, 7 SS, G/3 +2. EF: \$40; \$20 (main Schedule: 6:30pm – 6:45 – 7:00 – 7:15 – 7:30 – 7:45 – 8:00. Prizes: \$400 - \$200 - \$100; U2100: \$100; U1800: \$60. Register: www.usachesstour.com, info@usachesstour.com. Mailed entries: payable to USA Chess Tour, Murray Hill Station, PO Box 61, New York, NY 10156.

JAN. 25, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

MARSHALL \$500 FIDE BLITZ (BLZ)

9-SS, G/3 + 2. FIDE Blitz rated. USCF regular rating used for pairings & prizes. **\$500 GTD:** \$200-100; U2400/unr, U2200, U2000, U1800: \$50. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** Begin at 7pm and continue ASAP. Max three byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, OHIO

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50

2019 CARDINAL OPEN (OPEN SECTION FIDE RATED)

CONTINENTAL CHESS SCHEDULE

More details at chesstour.com. For late

news, hotel availability, lectures, results, games, etc, sign up for free CCA Newsletter at chesscalendar.com or chesstour.com.

Most tournaments have alternate schedules with less or more days than below.

Asterisk means full details in this issue- otherwise, see future issues or chesstour.com.

Events in red offer FIDE norm chances.

1/4-6: Boston Chess Congress (see Dec issue)

1/18-21: Golden State Open, Concord CA*

1/18-21: Liberty Bell Open, Philadelphia PA*

2/14-18: Southwest Class, Fort Worth TX*

2/22-24: Geo Washington Open, Falls Church VA*

3/1-3: Western Class, Van Nuys CA*

3/9-10: NY State Scholastics, Saratoga Springs*

3/15-17: Southern Class, Orlando FL*

3/22-24: Mid-America Open, Saint Louis MO*

3/23-24: Bill Little Memorial, Schenectady NY

4/5-7: Eastern Class Champs, Sturbridge MA*

4/17-21: Foxwoods Open, Mashantucket CT*

5/17-19: New York State Open, Lake George NY

5/23-27: Chicago Open, Wheeling IL*

6/7-9: Northeast Open, Stamford CT

6/14-16: Continental Class, Falls Church VA

6/21-23: Pittsburgh Open, Pittsburgh PA

6/27-7/1: Philadelphia International, Phila PA*

6/28-30: Philadelphia Open, Philadelphia PA*

7/3-7: World Open, Philadelphia PA*

7/19-21: Chicago Class, Wheeling IL

7/19-21: Pacific Coast Open, Van Nuys CA

7/19-21: Southern Open, Orlando FL

7/26-28: Bradley Open, Windsor Locks CT

8/9-11: Cleveland Open, Cleveland OH

8/14-18: Continental Open, Sturbridge MA

8/23-25: Atlantic Open, Falls Church VA

8/23-25: Indianapolis Open, Indianapolis IN

For later events, see chesstour.com.

5SS, 40/110 SD 30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/75 d10 schedules merge starting round 3 for all sections). Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Dr., Columbus. Hotel Rate: \$109 per night Reservations at: <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CMHATES-CHS-20190125/index.jhtml> **Prizes \$15,000** based on 200 paid entries in 5 sections: **Open** \$2000 - \$1500 - \$750 - \$500 Top U2300 \$500 - \$350 **U2100** \$1400 - \$700 - \$300 - \$200 Top **U1800** \$1400 - \$700 - \$300 - \$200 **U1500** \$1000 - \$600 - \$300 - \$200 **U1200** \$1000 - \$600 - \$300 - \$200 Unrated players and provisional rated players only qualify for 25% of any prize in all sections except Open, balance goes to next player in line. **Entry Fee:** Online - \$100 by January 20 after that EF is \$110 (OCA Membership Required for Ohio Players), Mail - \$105 by January 20, 2018 after that EF is \$110, On-site EF \$110. All: No checks at site credit cards are ok (CC Fees will be paid by registrant). **Re-Entry** all sections - \$40. **GM & IM** free entry if you pre-register before early registration deadline. **3-day Schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6:30pm, rds. Fri 7pm, Sat 10am & 5pm, Sun 9am & 3pm. **2-day Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 9:30am, rds. Sat 10am, 1:30pm, & 5pm, Sun 9am & 3pm. **Byes:** all sections, limit 1 - 1/2 point bye, no last round bye, all byes must commit before round 2. **Side Event:** Sat 10pm **Blitz (G/3 inc2) (USCF Rated)** 9 rounds entry fee \$20, 80% entries= prize fund. **Entry or more information:** <http://buckeyechess.com> or mail to: Buckeye Chess Club, 3180 Wild Dunes Court, Pickerington, OH 43147. **Questions: Mr. Kelly M. Bloomfield – Bloomfield.40@gmail.com or 614-668-5588.**

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, ARIZONA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40 (ENHANCED)

TUCSON OPEN AND SCHOLASTICS

Tucson Woman's Club, 6245 E. Bellevue St., Tucson, AZ 85712, 520-296-3142. Food vendor at playing site. **SECTIONS: Premier (1900+), U1900, U1500, & U1100.** Two separate scholastic tournaments (K-6/U800) held the same weekend more info at sazchess.org. **SCHEDULE: Premier & U1900 (3-day)** 5/SS, 40/90 SD/30 + 30 inc. Reg.: 1/25 5:30-6:30 PM; Rds.: 7, 10-5, 9:30-3:30. **(2-day)** 5/SS, Rds.: 1-2 G/60 + 30 inc. Rds.: 3-5 40/90 SD/30 + 30 inc. Reg.: 1/26 8:30-9:30 AM; Rds.: 10-1:30-5, 9:30-3:30. **U1500 & U1100 (2-day only)** 5/SS, G/90 d5. Reg.: 1/26 8:30-9:30 AM; Rds.: 10-1:30-5, 9:30-1. **PRIZES: Premier** (\$\$Gtd.): \$750+Plaque-500-250; \$\$b/4 Top X, U2000 \$150 each; \$50 SACA gift certificate to Top Jr. U18, Sr. 50+; **U1900** (\$\$b/36): \$300-150; \$\$b/4 Top B, U1600 \$100 each; \$25 SACA gift certificate to Top Unr., Jr. U14, Sr. 50+; **U1500** (\$\$b/36): \$200-100; \$\$b/4 Top D, U1200 \$50 each; **U1100**Trophy to 1st + \$50 SACA gift certificate, Trophy to 2nd - 5th Place, U800/Unr. **EF:** GM, IM, FM, WGM, WIM, WFM FREE! USCF 2200+ entry fee returned if schedule completed. **Premier (1900+):** \$80 (add \$30 if 1700-1899); **U1900:** \$60 (add \$20 if U1500); **U1500:** \$50 (add \$20 if U1100); **U1100:** \$40. **Early Bird:** \$10 off by 12/25 (\$5 off for Scholastic). **LATE FEE:** Additional \$10 if entry received after 1/17, \$20 after 1/24. **ALL:** 1/2 pt. byes all rounds but must be requested prior to start of Round 2 (max 2). **Re-entries:** *\$60 Premier, \$40 U1900, \$30 U1500, \$20 U1100.* **HR:** Sonesta ES Suites, 6477 East Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85710 (8-minute walk to site). \$99 up to 2 per room (+\$10 ea. for 3-4), \$139 up to 6 in 2BR suite. Breakfast included in these rates! 520-721-0991. Book by 1/4/2019, after that rates will be on a space available basis. Ask for chess tournament rate. **Info:** Martha Underwood, 520-990-6765, email: information@sazchess.org **Ent:** Events4Chess.com; postal registration available (checks payable to SACA) if postmarked by 1/18 to SACA, Attn: 2019 Tucson Open, PO Box 40663, Tucson, AZ 85717. W.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 25-27, NORTH CAROLINA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)

LAND OF THE SKY XXXII

5SS, 40/120,SD/30 d5 (U12 is G/90 d5). Crowne Plaza Resort Asheville, One Resort Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Weekend before Super Bowl. \$10,000 b/175 fully paid, \$7,500 gtd. Prizes guaranteed 75% across all sections, increased if attendance exceeds projection. **Open (FIDE-rated):** \$1050-525-350-225-175. U2300 \$350-200. **Asheville (FIDE-rated, Under 2200):** \$700-350. 1999-1900, 1899-1800, U1800 \$350-200 each; Unrated: \$100. **Buncombe (Under 1700):** \$700-350. 1599-1500, 1499-1400, 1399-1300, Under 1300 \$350-200 each; Unrated: \$100. **U12 (Under 1200):** \$350-175. U900: \$175-100 Unrated: \$100. Biggest Upsets in Tmnt: \$50-25. **EF (Open, Asheville, Buncombe):** \$84 by 1/19. GMs/IMs free (\$94 deducted from prize). **EF: (U12):** \$42 by 1/19. **“No-prize” EF for under age 18 in Asheville, Buncombe, U12:** \$21 (no discounts). **Unrated EF in Asheville, Buncombe, U12:** \$21 (no discounts, eligible for unrated prize only). **ALL:** On-site entries \$10 more. Discounts (pre-reg or on-site, one per player): \$10 off for players new to Land of the Sky, 2nd family member, or Under 18. Add \$42 to play in a section more than 200 points above your rating, 1 section max. **Rds.:** 1st rd. either Fri 7pm or Sat 9am (G/90 d5), then Sat 1pm - 7pm, Sun 9am - 3pm. One 1/2 pt bye avail rds. 1-4, declare by rd. 2. **BLITZ:** Sat 10 am EF: \$20. 100% of entry fees paid in prizes. **HR:** \$103 dbl. Reserve early at 828-254-3211 or 800-733-3211 and mention tournament. **INFO:** Wilder Wadford, wwadford48@gmail.com 828-645-4215, fax: 828-645-4216 **ENT:** WW, PO Box 1123, Weaverville, NC 28787 See link at www.nccchess.org for possible online registration.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20

CM AZHAR MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Pkwy. Park Free! 5SS, G/90 + 30 2-day rds. 1-2 G/61 d5. Park free. **Prizes:** \$5,000 b/120, \$3,000 guaranteed. 3 sects: **2000+** (FIDE) \$1,000-500-200, u2300: 250-125-100. **1600-1999 (FIDE):** \$700-300-100, u1800: 200-100, **u1600:** \$700-300-100 u1400: 125-100, u1200: 100. Unr max \$100 exc Open. Jan 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** F 6:30-6:45p & Sa 9:30-9:45a. **Rds.:** F 7p, Sa 10a, 3p Su 10a 2:30p. (2-day Sa 10a 12:30 & merge). **EF:** 99, Econ EF: 89 w 50% prz, after 1/17 +20. Playup +20. GMs/IMs- \$0 by 1/10 (prize - EF). **Info:** <http://BayAreaChess.com/champs>.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 26, ILLINOIS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

BRADLEY WINTER OPEN

4 SS, G/80 d5. Bob Michel Student Center, 915 N. Elmwood Ave., Peoria, IL 61606. **2 Sections: Open & Reserve (1400 & Under).** **EF:** \$30 by 1/24, \$40 at site, add \$10 if playing up from Reserve into Open section, free to Masters. **\$\$Gtd:** \$620 (1st, 2nd, 3rd & Upset in Open & 1st, 2nd & Upset in Reserve). Class prizes are b/3 for X, A, B & C for Open section, E & F for Reserve section. **Open:** 1st \$240, 2nd \$120, 3rd \$60, X, A, B & C \$60 & \$30 each, Upset \$25. **Reserve (1400 & Under):** 1st \$90, 2nd \$60, E & F \$60 & \$30 each, Upset \$25. **Reg.:** 8-8:45. **Rds.:** 9:00-12:00-2:45-5:30. **Bye:** 1-4, www.bradleywinteropen.com. **Ent:** Murrel Rhodes, 1116 N. Parkside Dr., Peoria, IL 61606, 309-981-7210.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 27, MASSACHUSETTS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

WN 2019 WINTER OPEN

West Newbury Old Town Hall, 491 Main Street, West Newbury, MA 01985. In 2 Sections, **Open:** 4SS, G/65 d5. **\$\$GTD:** \$150-120-80. U2000 \$50. **U1600:** 4SS, G/65 d5, Open to 1599 & under. **\$\$GTD:** \$120-80-60-50-40. U1200 \$50. **ALL: EF:** Entry fee \$40 postmarked by 19 January, \$45 at site. Free entry to all players rated 2200 or higher. **Reg.:** 8:45-9:15. **Rds.:** 9:30-12:30-3:5-30. 1 half point bye rounds 1-3. **ENT:** Alex Relyea, 49 Technology Dr. #89, Bedford, NH 03110. **INFORMATION:** Alex Relyea relyea@operamail.com. www.relyeachess.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 27, NEW JERSEY

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

DR. DAVID OSTFELD MEMORIAL ICA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

4SS, G/61 d5. Bergen Academy, 200 Hackensack Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601. Open to All Ages With Rating above 1400. **Prize Fund (\$\$b/40):** 1st - 3rd \$300, \$250, \$200, U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 each \$100 Best Under 13 Years Old \$75, Best Over 55 Years Old \$75. Reg ends at 9 AM. Only one 1/2-point bye allowed, if requested before the start of round two. **EF:** Adv (pmk by Jan 21st) \$45, AT Site \$50. GMs Free Entry. For info, call 201 797-0330, email chessdirector@icanj.net or visit icanj.net. Prize Fund Will Not Be Reduced Below 70%. **Rds.:** 9:30 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:15 PM, 4:30 PM. **Enter online at:** [https://ica.jumbula.com/](https://ica.jumbula.com/#/ica_tournaments) #/ica_tournaments or mail information to Diana Tulman, 28 Canterbury Lane, New Milford, NJ 07646. Make checks payable to International Chess Academy. W.

JAN. 28, FEB. 4, 11, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

30TH NASSAU G/60 CHAMPIONSHIP

6-SS, G/55 + 5sec or G/60. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1st & Main Sts., Mineola. **EF:** \$40 by 1/25, \$47 at site, non-memb \$9 more. **\$\$** (800 b/24, top 2 G) 180-120, U2100, 1900, 1700, 1500, 1300/UR each 100. 3 byes 1-6. **Reg.:** 7-7:15 PM. **Rds.:** 7:15-9:25 each Mon. Captnhal@optonline.net **Ent:** Harold Stenzel, 80 Amy Dr., Sayville, NY 11782.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 1-3 OR 2-3, FLORIDA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20

CENTRAL FLORIDA 2019 WINTER OPEN

Avanti Palms Resort and Conference Center 6515 International Dr., Orlando, FL 32819. **\$10,000 b/150 (Schol=½) 60% Guaranteed!** 5 Rounds at G/120 d5 (2-day: Rounds 1&2 G/60 d5) time controls. **6 sections:** Prizes* **Premier** \$1000-500-400-200; **Senior-55+** \$400-200, Over 65 \$100, Over 70 \$100 **NOTE: Senior-55+ is a separate section only for 55+ of all ratings; Under 2000** \$900-500-300-200-100; **Under 1700** \$900-500-300-200-100; **Under 1400** \$900-500-300-200-100; **Schol U1200** \$400-200, Under 1000 \$100, U800 \$100; Rated players may play up one section only. *Unrateds limited to \$100 unless Place prize in Premier or Senior. **EF:** \$100 by Jan 15, \$110 later; plus \$10 if paid on-site, \$50 less to students in U1200 section. **CFCC member discount:** \$10 (\$5 for Jr/Sr memb). **Byes:** 1/2-pt must commit before Round 2 paired (max 2). **Reg:** ends 1/2-hour before 1st round. **2-day:** Rnds 1&2 **Sat** (G/60 d5)11am & 2pm. Rnd. 3 **Sat** (G/120 d5) 5pm, Rnds 4&5 **Sun** (G/120 d5) 11am & 3:30pm. **3-day:** All Rnds G/120 d5, Fri 7pm, **Sat** 11am & 5pm, **Sun** 11am & 3:30pm. **SIDE EVENTS:** Saturday night Blitz, Mixed-Free prizes (\$200-100), Lectures Sat & Sun @ 9:30am **HR:\$95 includes free parking** and WiF Call 407-996-0900,or 866-994-3157 **Reserve by Jan 9th** as rooms may sell-out by then;1 Night Early Departure fee. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/february2019hotel>; Non-Registered Guests: Free Parking and in-out for all. **ENT:** CFCC, 95 Orense Way, Oviedo, FL 32765; Or online at: <http://onlineregistration.cc>; scroll down to Central Florida Chess Club event, or by “Vendor—Filter— Search”; Entry Quick Link is <https://onlineregistration.cc/CFCC/CFCL19> . **EF must be received by 6am Feb 1** or paid on-site @ \$10 extra. **INFO:** 407-629-6946 or www.centralflchess.org; **After 4pm Feb 1**, call Hotel 407-996-0900 and ask for Chess Office or (407)670-9304 or (321)297-7087 for onsite cells.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 2-3, IOWA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

5TH ANNUAL PORT OF BURLINGTON OPEN FIDE AND USCF RATED

2019 Iowa State GP Qualifier Event. 5SS, G/90 i30. The Loft of Burlington, 416 Jefferson St., Burlington, IA 52601. **\$600 Guaranteed.** Open \$200+ Trophy-125-100 U2000 \$100 U1800 \$75 Chess Book for top three Upsets; **EF:** \$60 till Jan 28th then \$70. IM and GM free with (\$60 deducted from prize). Iowa State Membership (if resident of Iowa) Req'd, Other States Welcome. **Reg.:** Ends 30 min before round 1. No electronic devices in the playing hall. **Rds.:** Sat 10:00am; 2:30pm; 7:30pm; Sun 9:00am; 2:00pm. All Sections: One half point bye if requested before round1. **Ent:** Eric Vigil, 445 Galway Dr., Iowa City, IA 52246. evigil@gmail.com, 319-621-3116 or online at <https://www.onlineregistration.cc/> **Additional Info:** USCF and FIDE Rated. Feb 2019 USCF Rating supplement will be used for Pairing Purposes. FIDE rules will be used. Espresso machine will be onsite. Birthday cake will be served. Free GM Lecture 7pm-9pm Feb 1st at 616 Columbia St., Burlington, IA 52601.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, MARYLAND

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30

BALTIMORE OPEN

5-SS, 40/90, SD/30 + 30” incr, (Rnd. 1 G/90 + 30” incr) (2-day schedule: Rds. 1-2 G/45 + 30”incr) U1250 & U1000 G/90 d5 (rds. 1-2 G/45 d5), (U1250 3-day option Rds. 1 & 2 G/90 d5) Sheraton BWI, 1100 Old Elkridge Landing Rd., Linthicum Heights, MD 21090. \$\$Based on score. 7 sections: Championship (min. rating of 2000) FIDE rated: 5.0= \$1600, 4.5= \$800, 4.0= \$450, 3.5= \$175, 3.0= \$50 [min \$1500 payout, top score group raised if less than \$1500]. U2200 (min. rating of 1800) FIDE rated: 5.0= \$1500, 4.5= \$700, 4.0= \$350, 3.5= \$150, 3.0= \$40. U2000: 5.0= \$1200, 4.5= \$650, 4.0= \$350, 3.5= \$125. U1800: 5.0= \$1200, 4.5= \$600, 4.0= \$300, 3.5= \$100. U1600: 5.0= \$1000, 4.5= \$500, 4.0= \$250, 3.5= \$100. U1300: 5.0= \$500, 4.5= \$250, 4.0= \$125, 3.5= \$50. U1000 (no adult Unr): 5.0= \$250, 4.5= \$125, 4.0= \$50, 3.5= \$20, Trophies to top 10 & top U800 in U1000. **If no 5-0 in section, then sole 1st @ 4.5 or shared 1st at lower score receive bonus (added to score prize)** - Championship: \$300; U2100 \$200, U1900 \$150, U1700 & U1500: \$100; U1250 & U1000: \$50. Unrated may not win over \$100 in U1000, \$200 U1250, or \$400 in U1500. **Sets, boards and clocks provided all sections. Optionally, pairings can be texted/emailed to your phone. Free Sunday morning continental breakfast for players.** Free parking. EF: \$109 by 1/25, \$114 by 2/5, and \$119 online only by 2/7, \$130 at the door. Special EFs: \$35 less for U1300, \$55 less for U1000; GMs free, \$50 deducted from prize; IMs \$45 off EF, \$20 deducted from prize. HR: \$89, (\$5 EF discount if staying at hotel). Rooms may not be avail after 1/25. 3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 7pm, rds. Fri 8, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 9:30 & 3:30. 2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10am rds. 11, 2:15 & 6, Sun 9:30 & 3:30. U1300 & U1000 schedule Reg. ends Sat 10am rds. 11, 12:45 & 3:00, Sun 9:30 & 12:45. U1300 3-day schedule Reg. ends Fri 7 pm, rds. Fri 8, Sat 11 & 3:00, Sun 9:30 & 12:45. Ent: MCA, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd., Towson, MD 21204. Detailed rules, more information and registration <http://thebaltopen.com>.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 9, INDIANA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

2019 SOUTHERN INDIANA OPEN/RESERVE (U1800)

4SS, G/70 d5. Holiday Inn, 1710 N. Kinser Pike, Bloomington, IN 47404. **HR: \$99 (rsrvtn req'd).** EF: (both \$5 less for ISCA members). \$45 in **Advance if by 2/5**, \$60 at site Reg.: 8:15-9:00AM. Rds.: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00, 6:00. Prizes: \$1400, b/50. **Open:** 1st \$350, 2nd \$250, A: \$150. **Reserve:** 1st \$250, 2nd \$150, C: \$125, D/E: \$125. Entries in Advance at **Indianachess.org** or mail to **(must be recvd b 2/5)** Craig Hines, 613 North Park Dr., Evansville, IN 47710, email: mrscit2740@hotmail.com, cell 812- 618-8700. 1 bye if claimed by RD. 2, NO LAST RD HALF PT. BYES. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 9-10, ALABAMA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

QUEEN OF HEARTS - 47TH ANNUAL

5SS, TC: G/120 d5. **AUM Taylor Center.** 7401 East Dr., Montgomery, AL **36117. PREMIERE** (PF: \$950 - \$\$GTD): \$350-225-A:200-U1800:175; **RESERVE** (PF: \$650 - \$\$GTD): \$250-150-125-U1200: \$125. **EF:** \$50; if mailed by FEB 2nd: \$60 at site. **Late REG.:** FEB 9th, 8-8:30am. **Rds.:** 9-2-7; 9-2. **SCHOLASTIC (K-12): NOVICE (6SS. TC: G/20 d5; Not Rated): EF:** \$20; if mailed by FEB 2nd; \$30 at site. **Trophy:** Top 3; **Medal:** 4th-6th. **Rds.:** 9-10-11-12:30-1:30, 2:30. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess. ENT:** Caesar Chess LLC, 5184 Caldwell Mill Road, Suite 204 - 202, Birmingham, AL 35244 or email your entry form information before **FEB 6th** and pay at site. **Info:** CaesarChess@gmail.com; www.AlabamaChess.org.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, TEXAS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)

10TH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

9SS (Master Section), 7SS (other sections), DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76155. Free parking, free airport shuttle. **5-day schedule,** Feb 14-18: Master Section only, GM & IM norms possible, 40/2, SD/30 d10. **4-day schedule,** Feb 15-18: Expert through Class E, 40/2, SD/30 d10. **3-day schedule:** Expert through Class E, Feb 16-18, rds 1-2 G/60 d10, then merges with 4-day. **2-day schedule:** Class B through E, Feb 17-18, rds. 1-4 G/30 d10, then merges with others. **\$33,000 prize fund** unconditionally guaranteed. **FIDE ratings used** in Master Section, USCF February official in others. **In 7 sections;** rated players may play up one section. **Master** (2200/up): \$3000-2000-1200-800-600-500-400-400, clear or tiebreak winner \$200, top FIDE U2300/Unr \$1800-900. FIDE. **Expert** (2000-2199): \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Class A** (1800-1999/Unr): \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Class B** (1600-1799/Unr): \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Class C** (1400-1599/Unr): \$1700-900-500-300-200. **Class D** (1200-1399/Unr): \$800-400-300-200-100. **Class E** (Under 1200/Unr): \$800-400-300-200-100. **Unrated** may enter A through E, with maximum prize E \$100, D \$200, C \$300, B \$400, A \$600. **Mixed doubles:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$1000-600-400. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2; only rounds 1-7 in Master Section count towards doubles; prize limits do not apply to doubles. **Master Section EF:** \$228 online at chessaction.com by 2/13, \$250 at site by 2/14 6 pm or online by 2/14 5 pm. GMs & foreign IMs/WGMs \$200 less (\$200 deducted from prize), US IMs/WGMs & FIDE rated foreign players \$100 less (\$100 deducted from prize). **Minimum prizes:** \$600 to first 8 foreign GMs who enter online by 1/14 and play all 9 games with no byes; \$300 to other GMs (including US) who enter online by 1/14 and play all 9 games with no byes. EF deduction cannot lower prize to below the minimum. **Expert, A, B, C sections EF:** \$158 online at chessaction.com by 2/13, \$180 at site, or online until 2 hours before round 1. **Class D or E Section EF:** All \$80 less than Expert to Class C EF. **Re-entry** (no Master to Master) \$60. **All:** Special 1 yr USCF dues with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **5-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds Thu 7, Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **4-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **3-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 &

erwise unrated. **Foreign player ratings** (Expert & below): See www.chess-tour.com/foreignratings.htm. **Electronic devices rules:** See www.chess-tour.com/devices.htm. Leave your phone in your hotel room, your car, home, or in a bag near your table. **HR:** \$103-103, 817-358-1700, reserve by 1/29 or rate may increase. Car rental: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Questions: chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Bring set, board, clock if possible;** none supplied. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entering). **Blitz tournament** Sun 10:30 pm, enter by 10:15 pm.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, GEORGIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15

2019 ATLANTA WINTER CONGRESS

5-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. **\$3500 b/85, \$2100 guaranteed.** 6 sections. **“Expert (FIDE-rated):”** Open to USCF or FIDE-rated 1800 thru 2199. \$500-300. **Class “A:”** Open to USCF-rated 1600 thru 1999. \$475-275. **Class “B:”** Open to USCF-rated 1400 thru 1799. \$450-250. **Class “C:”** Open to USCF-rated 1200 thru 1599. \$425-225. **Class “D:”** Open to USCF-rated below 1400 and Unrated. \$400-200. **Class “E:”** Open to USCF-rated below 1200 and Unrated. Trophies, 1st thru 7thplaces; Under 900, 1st and 2nd places. (Classes “D” thru “Expert” entries only count towards the 85-player prize base). Class “D” thru “A” rated players may elect to enter the next higher section. The “USCF Ratings Supplement” used to determine a player’s “official published rating” for competition will be the same as the month in which the tournament begins. **Entry Fee:** \$56 (3-Day), \$55 (2-Day) — if rec’d by 14-FEB; \$60 at site. Unrated: \$35. Class “E:” \$30. **Re-Entry:** \$40 (not available in “Expert” section). **3-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 7:00pm. Rds. Fri 7:30pm; Sat 2:30pm & 7:30pm; Sun 10:00am & 3:30pm. **2-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10:00am. Rds. Sat 10:30am, then merges with 3-Day Schedule. **Time controls:** “Expert” Section: 40/90, SD/30 d10. Other sections: G/120 d5. All sections: 2-day Schedule, Rd. 1 G/90 d5. (SAT 10:30am round is not “FIDE-rated”). **FIDE-Only:** Rule 6.7a. “A player who arrives at the board more than 30 min. late shall lose the game.” **1/2-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit two) — must request 1/2-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Players Must Bring Sets, Boards, and Clocks** – None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Information:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 – 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 14-FEB – no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 16-18 OR 17-18, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)

SAN DIEGO OPEN

6-SS, 6 Sections, 40/120, SD/30 d10; 2-day schedule rounds 1 - 3 are G/40 d10), then merges with 3 day for round 4 at 4:30 PM Sunday. Crowne Plaza Hotel San Diego Mission Valley, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. Open Section slow games are FIDE rated. **\$\$12,000 Guaranteed prize fund. Prizes: Open Section:** \$1,600-1,200-700-500-300, plus U2300 \$600-400. **U2200, U2000, U1800 Sections,** all: \$700-500-200-100; **U1600 Section:** \$600-400-200; **U1400 Section:** \$500-200, plus BU1200 \$300-100, Book Prize for Best Unrated in each section, but no cash prize for unrated. Provisionally rated players can only win 50% of stated prizes. Feb official rating list will be used. Cell phone violations: \$5 fine, and possible loss of game! **Reg.: 3-day:** 9-10:30 AM on Sat, **2-day:** 8 - 9 AM on Sunday. **Rds.: 3 day:** 11 AM & 5 PM on Sat, 10 AM & 4:30 PM on Sunday and 9 AM & 3 PM on Monday. **2- day:** 9:30 AM, 11:45, 2 PM & then 4:30 PM on Sunday, 9 AM & 3 PM on Monday (Presidents’ Day). **EF:** \$90 if received by 12/31/18 (Early Bird Special), or \$100 1/01/19 - 1/30/19, \$120 2/01/19 - 2/15/19 and \$140 late registration at door on 2/16/19. No credit cards at door, checks or cash only. Special rate of only \$75 if U1400 or unrated. GMs, WGMs, IMs and WIMs all play for free, but \$100 deducted from any prize winnings. Re-entry fee from 3-day to 2-day is \$75, for players rated U2300 only. SCCF membership req’d (\$18 Adult, \$13 Jr, or \$3 for Jr w/o mag) for all So Calif. residents. Two byes allowed, but must be requested at least 1 hour before the round; last round byes must be requested before Rd. 3. **Ent:** SDCC, PO Box 120162, San Diego, CA 92112 or enter online at www.sccfchess.com. For more info call Chuck Ensey at (858) 432-8006, or email me at chucnglo@aol.com **Hotel Rates:** book online or call 619-297-1101, Special rate of \$140 if booked by 12/15/18, but rates may rise and rooms sell out after this so please book early.

FEB. 19, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

MARSHALL MASTERS

4-SS, G/25 d5. Open to players rated 2000+. FIDE Rapid rated. **\$750 GTD:** \$250-150-100; U2400: \$125; U2300: \$100; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$30; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 22, NEW YORK

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

MARSHALL \$500 FIDE BLITZ (BLZ)

9-SS, G/3 +2. FIDE Blitz rated. USCF Blitz ratings (when possible) used for pairings & prizes. **\$500 GTD:** \$200-100; U2400/unr, U2200, U2000, U1800: \$50. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** Begin at 7pm and continue ASAP. Max three byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, VIRGINIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 100 (ENHANCED)

4TH ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON OPEN

5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Westin Tysons Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike (VA-7), Falls Church, VA 22043 (from the east, take, I-66W to VA-7, from other directions, take I-495 to VA-7). Free parking, free shuttle to Tysons Corner Center and Metro. 25 minutes drive from Washington. **\$15,000 guaranteed prizes.** In 5 sections. **Major:** Open to 1800/above. \$1800-900-500-300, clear/tiebreak win \$100 bonus, top Under 2300 \$600-300. **Under 2100:** \$1200-600-300-200, top U1900 (no unr) \$600-

300. **Under 1800:** \$1200-600-300-200, top U1600 (no unr) \$500-250. **Under 1500:** \$1000-500-250-150, top U1300 (no unr) \$400-200. **Under 1200:** \$600-300-150-100. **Mixed doubles bonus prizes:** best male/female 2-player “team” combined score among all sections: \$400-200. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) by 2 pm 2/23. **Unrated** may enter any section, with prize limit U1800 \$400, U1500 \$200, U1200 \$100; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 4 sections EF:** \$108 at chessaction.com by 2/20, 3-day \$113, 2-day \$112 if check mailed by 2/13, all \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before round 1. GMs, IMs & WGMs free in Major; \$100 from prize. **Under 1200 Section EF:** all \$40 less than top 4 sections EF. **Re-entry \$50,** not available in Major. **No checks at site,** credit cards OK. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **3-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6 pm. Rds. Fri 7, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am. Rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **Half point byes** available all rounds, limit 2 byes, Major must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 3. **Electronic devices rules:** See www.chesstour.com/devices.htm. Leave your phone in your hotel room, your car, home, or in a bag near your table. **HR:** \$109-109, 1-866-716-8108, reserve by 2/8 or rate may increase, chess block may sell out before 2/8. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Questions: chesstour.com, chesstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entering). **Blitz tournament** Sat 9:30 pm, enter by 9:15 pm.

FEB. 23, ALABAMA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

TOM NARD MEMORIAL V

4SS, Game/45 + 10 second increment per move. Round times: 9:30, 11:30, 2:30, 4:30 Location: Evangel Church, 3975 Vaughn Rd., Montgomery, AL. Three sections: **OPEN** (prizes b/20, 70%GTD): 1st \$400 + T, 2nd \$200, U2000/unrated \$100; **U1800** (prizes b/20, 70%GTD): 1st \$350 + T, 2nd \$175, U1500/unrated \$100; **U1200** (prizes b/20, 70%GTD): 1st \$320 + T, 2nd \$160, U1000/unrated \$100. EF: \$40 by February 16, \$45 thereafter. Registration: Send name, USCF ID, section, and EF (payable to “Evangel Church”) to Doug Strout, 6000 Camelot Ct., Montgomery, AL 36117 (email: dtstrout@bellsouth.net).

FEB. 23, NEW HAMPSHIRE

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

6TH QUEEN CITY TORNADO

4SS, G/60 d5. DoubleTree by Hilton (formerly the Radisson), 700 Elm St. (Granite St. exit off I-293), Manchester, NH. \$\$G \$1,360. Three sections. **Open,** EF: \$37 if rec’d by 2/21, free to GM/IM. \$\$G: \$200-130-100, U2100 \$110, U1950 \$100. **Under 1800,** EF: \$37 if rec’d by 2/21. \$\$G: \$150-100-70, U1600 \$90. No Unr. may win over \$100. **Under 1400,** EF: \$31 if rec’d by 2/21. \$\$G: \$100-70-40, U1200 \$60, U1000 \$40. No Unr. may win over \$55. **All,** EF \$5 more if paid at site. Online advance entry available at www.nhchess.org until 6 p.m. on 2/22. NHCA membership required of rated NH residents; dues \$8 adult, \$6 age U19. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:35 a.m. Sat. 2/23. **Rds.:** 10-1-3:30-6. Half-point bye OK for any one rd, must commit before rd. 2; no half-point byes for players receiving full-point byes. **Ent:** NHCA, c/o Hal Terrie, 377 Huse Rd. Unit 23, Manchester, NH 03103. Info: halterrie@comcast.net.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

FEB. 23, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

2019 PA STATE GAME/75 CHAMPIONSHIP

4SS, G/75 d5. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **3 Sections,** \$\$ (695G): Championship: EF: \$30 by 2/15, \$40 later. \$200-100, U2000 \$75, U1800 \$50. Premier: U1600. EF: \$25 by 2/15, \$35 later. \$90-60, U1400 \$50, U1200 \$40, U1000 \$30; Trophies to Top 2, Top 2 U1400, Top 2 U1200, Top 2 U1000. Scholastic: Grades K-12 U900. EF: \$15 by 2/15, \$25 later. Trophies to Top 7, 1-3 U600. **ALL:** Teams of 4 to 7 combined from all sections, Trophies 1st-2nd clubs, schools. PSCF \$5, OSA. Reg ends 9:30am. **Rds.:** 10-1-4-7. **Ent/Info:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223, 412-908-0286, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 23-24, WASHINGTON

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

27TH DAVE COLLYER MEMORIAL

5SS, Rd. 1: G/90 d5; Rds. 2-5: G/115 d5. Millwood Presbyterian Church Community Center, 3223 N. Marguerite, Spokane, WA 99212. \$28 by 2/22; \$35 at door; Under 18 \$5 less. Cash, checks only. **\$\$GTD:** \$350-225-125. Expert: \$100; A;B;C;D;E/unr: \$100, \$70; Biggest upsets (non-prov): \$100; 50. **Reg.:** 9:30-10:30a.m. 2/23. **Rds.:** 11-2:30-7; 10-2:30. One 1/2 bye available; request by 2/23. **ENT:** Spokane Chess Club, 9923 N. Moore St., Spokane, WA 99208. Kevin Korsmo (509) 270-1772. **DIR:** I-90 exit 287. North on Argonne Road one mile. Left at light on Euclid, two blocks to site. <http://spokanechessclub.org>. W.

A State Championship Event!

MAR. 1, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

2019 PA QUICK CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP (QC)

6SS, G/8 d3. Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17235. **3 sections,** EF rec’d by 2/16: **Open:** \$12. **U1500:** \$11. **U1100:** \$10. \$\$ (750G): **Open:** 175-100-50, U1800 \$45, U1600 \$40. **U1500:** 125-75-50, U1300 \$40, U1200 \$30, Unr \$20. **U1100:** Trophies: 1-12, U800, U700, U600, 1-3 Unr. **All: EF:** \$20 after 2/16, PSCF \$5 OSA. **Reg:** 5:30-6:15pm. **Rd. 1:** 7pm. Feb 2019 Reg rating. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **HR:**Mention “Chess Tourney”: 717-334-8121 \$89 by 1/31. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223-2245. **Info:** 412-908-0286, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, pscfchess.org/pascholasticchamp/.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)

26TH ANNUAL WESTERN CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Airtel Plaza Hotel, 7277 Valjean Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406. Parking \$8/day, \$12 including overnight. Flyaway bus from LAX to Van Nuys about \$10 each way; free shuttle to bus and train station. Free wireless, indoor pool, gym, hot tubs; restaurants within walking distance. **\$20,000 guaranteed prizes.** 7 sections. **Master** (over 2199): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top U2300 \$800-400. FIDE. **Expert** (2000-2199): \$1500-700-400-200. **Class A** (1800-1999): \$1500-700-400-200. **Class B** (1600-1799/Unr): \$1500-700-400-200. **Class C** (1400-1599/Unr): \$1200-600-300-200. **Class D** (1200-1399/Unr): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class E** (Under 1200/Unr): \$600-300-200-100. **Rated players** may play up one section. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Prize limits:** Unrated may not win over \$100 in E, \$200 D, \$300 C or \$400 B. **Mixed doubles bonus prizes:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$500-300-200. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register at site (no extra fee) by 2 pm 3/2, prize limits do not apply to mixed doubles. **Top 6 sections EF:** \$123 online at chessaction.com by 2/27, 3-day \$128, 2-day \$127 mailed by 2/20, \$140 online until 2 hours before rd. 1 or at site. **Class E EF:** all \$50 less than top 6 sections EF. **Online EF \$5 less** to SCCF members; join/renew at sccfchess.com. **GMs free;** \$120 deducted from prize. **No checks** at site; credit cards OK. **All:** Special 1 yr USCF dues with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction.com. Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. Re-entry (except Master) \$60. **3-day schedule:** Reg. Fri to 6 pm, rds. Fri 7, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. Sat to 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **Byes:** OK all rds, limit 2; Master must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 3. **Electronic devices rules:** See www.chesstour.com/devices.htm. Please leave your phone in your hotel room, your car, home, or in a bag near your table. **HR:** \$119-119, 818-997-7676, reserve by 2/18 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Questions:** chesstour.com, 347-201-2269, DirectorAtChess.US. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entering). **Blitz tournament** Saturday 9:30 pm, enter by 9:15 pm.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 2-3, MARYLAND

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15

UMBC OPEN - ALVIN S. MINTZES CHESS TOURNAMENT

5SS, G/90, +30incr. University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore (in Commons, 3rd floor). Held concurrently with Maryland “Sweet 16” (Invitational)—winner to receive in-state fixed-dollar tuition scholarship to UMBC. **Open:** (All) \$\$1260: \$400-300-200 Gtd., Class prizes \$120 ea. to top U2300, U2100, U1900. Free ent. to GMs, \$50 deducted from any prizes. **U1800:** (U1800/Unr.) \$\$1080 b/40: \$350-250-150, Class prizes \$110 ea. to top U1600, U1400, U1200 (b/4). No Unr. player may win

4th annual
GEORGE WASHINGTON OPEN
February 22-24 or 23-24, Westin Tysons Corner
Falls Church, VA, 25 minutes from Washington
\$15,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES

For full details see “Grand Prix” in this issue.

more than \$250 in this section. **All:** EF: \$50 if postmarked by 2/15, \$60 later, \$10 less if under age 20. Reg: 8:30-9:30am Sat., Rds: 10-3-7:30pm Sat, 10:30-3:30pm Sun. **Byes:** Up to three 1/2-pt. byes avail. in Rds. 1-5 if req'd at least 1 hr. before Rd. (before Rd. 2 for any Rd. 4-5 bye), but only at most one 1/2-point bye in Rds. 4-5. **HR:** La Quinta Inn and Suites, 1734 West Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD 21090, 410-859-2333, www.lq.com (From I-95, take Exit 47A onto I-195 towards BWI Airport. Take Exit 2A onto 295 north towards Baltimore; take first exit, bearing right onto West Nursery Road.) **Directions to UMBC:** Take Exit 47B off I-95 & follow signs to UMBC. Park in Commons Drive garage. **Ent:** Register online at <http://mdchess.com> (email questions to dewyerj@umbc.edu), or mail to Joel DeWyer, UMBC, Attn: Open, 1000 Hilltop Circle, The Commons, Rm. 335, Baltimore, MD 21250. Make out check to Maryland Chess Association. **For more information:** www.umbc.edu/chess. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
MAR. 2-3, PENNSYLVANIA
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10
2019 IRA LEE RIDDLE MEMORIAL PA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP & PA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP
5SS, G/90 d5. Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg PA 17235. **3 sections: \$\$** (1875G): **Open:** 350-150, U2200 \$125, U2000 \$100. **U1800:** 200-150, U1650 \$125, U1500 \$100. **U1400:** 200-150, U1200 \$90, U1000 \$75, Unr \$60. **All:** College Tr: 1-2 in each section, 1-2 team (top 4 over all sections). **EF:** \$40 rec'd by 2/16, \$50 after, PSCF \$5 OSA. **Reg.:** 8:45-9:30 am. **Rds.:** 10-2-5:30, 9-1. Feb 2019 ratings used. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **HR:** Mention "Chess Tourney": 717-334-8121. \$89 by 1/31. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223-2245. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286, pscfchess.org/pascholasticchamp/.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
MAR. 9-10, DELAWARE
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20
DELAWARE STATE OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
Hilton, Christiana Hotel, 100 Continental Dr., Newark, DE 19713 (off I-95). Ask for the special price to reserve room for the chess tournament. 302-454-1500. TC: G/90 d5. **Open:** \$600, \$300, \$150, U2200 \$150, U2000 \$150, U1800 \$150, **U1600** \$400, \$250, \$150, U1400 \$140, U1200 \$140, U1000 \$140. **Special DE Resident Prizes:** Delaware State Champion: Crystal Trophy + Free entry in next year's event, Delaware State Woman's Champion: Trophy + Free entry in next year's event (may be in U1600 or open section based on performance), Top DE U1600 Trophy. Top DE Junior under age 19 Trophy. **Reg.:** Advanced reg: Delaware Chess Association, 2400 N Broom St., Apt. 203, Wilmington, DE 19802. 302-893-9519. TD: William Trueman. On-site Reg.: 8am - 9am. **EF:** Free entry to GM's and IM's (\$50 deducted from prizes), \$70 by 3/04, \$75 at the site. **Rds:** Sat.10, 2, 6, Sun. 9, 1, **Half point Byes:** 2 available. **\$ prizes** b/40 in each section. **Email:** trueman56@gmail.com

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, FLORIDA
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80 (ENHANCED)
17TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS
5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Dr., Orlando 32819. Free parking. **Prizes \$17,000 guaranteed.** In 7 sections. **Master** (2200/up): \$1600-800-400-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus. FIDE. **Expert** (2000-2199): \$1200-700-400-200. **Class A** (1800-1999): \$1200-700-400-200. **Class B** (1600-1799): \$1200-700-400-200. **Class C** (1400-1599): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class D** (1200-1399): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class E** (Under 1200): \$600-400-200-100. **Rated players** may play up one section. **Unrated** may enter A through E, but may not win over \$100 in E, \$200 D, \$300 C or \$500 B. **Mixed doubles:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$500-300-200. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register at site (no extra fee) by 2 pm 3/16. **Top 6 sections EF:** \$118 online at chessaction.com by 3/13, 3-day \$123, 2-day \$122 mailed by 3/6, \$130 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before rd. 1. GMs, IMs & WGMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **Class E EF:** all \$30 less than above. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. Re-entry \$60; not available in Master Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Master must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 3. **HR:** \$130-130-130-130 (no resort fee), includes resort fee benefits (free wireless & entertainment in room, use of fitness center, etc). 1-800-421-8001, 407-351-2420; reserve by 3/1 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** DirectorAtChess.us, chesstour.com, chesstour.info, 347-201-2269. Entries posted at chessaction.com (online entries posted instantly). **Blitz tournament** Sat 9:30 pm, enter by 9:15 pm.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, GEORGIA
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30
23RD ANNUAL BORIS KOGAN MEMORIAL
5-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. **\$5000 b/100, \$3000 guaranteed.** 3 sections. **Championship (FIDE-rated):** Open to USCF or FIDE-rated 1900 and above. \$1000- 500-300; Under 2100: \$275-125. **Amateur:** Open to USCF-rated 1400 thru 1899 and Unrated. \$600-400-250; Under 1700: \$225. **Reserve:** Open to USCF-rated Under 1400 and Unrated. \$500-350-250; Under 1200, \$225. The "USCF Ratings Supplement" used to determine a player's "official published rating" for competition will be the same as the month in which the tournament begins. **Entry Fee:** \$74 (3-Day), \$73 (2-Day) — if rec'd by 14-MAR; \$79 at site. (W)IGMs, (W)IMs Free (\$60 deducted from any cash

prizes won). Unrated: \$35. **Re-Entry:** \$40 (not available in Championship section). **3-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 7:00pm. Rds. Fri 7:30pm; Sat 2:30pm & 7:30pm; Sun 10:00am & 3:30pm. **2-Day Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10:00am. Rds. Sat 10:30am, then merges with 3-Day Schedule. **Time controls:** Championship: 40/90, SD/30 d10. Other sections: G/120 d5. All sections: 2-day Schedule, Rd. 1 G/90 d5 (SAT 10:30am round is not "FIDE-rated"). **FIDE-Only:** Rule 6.7a. "A player who arrives at the board more than 30 min. late shall lose the game." **1/2-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit two) — must request 1/2-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Players Must Bring Sets, Boards, and Clocks** — None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Information:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 — 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 14-MAR — no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAR. 16-17, NEW YORK
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)
41ST ANNUAL MARCHAND OPEN
Dr. Erich Marchand "requested that his friends play chess in his memory." 5SS, G/115 d5. **Location:** The Strong's National Museum of Play, One Manhattan Square, Rochester, NY 14607. \$16,440 Gtd. **Open Section:** \$3000-2000-1300-800-500-300. Under 2200 & U2000 each \$800-475. FIDE Rated EF: \$85. **U1800 Section:** \$1050-700-400. Under 1600 \$700-400. EF: \$70. **U1400 Section:** \$580-360-240. Under 1200 \$340-220. EF \$60. **U1000 Section:** \$350-220-140. Under 800 \$175-115. EF: \$50. Unrated players in the U1800 section can only win \$330, in U1400 \$195 & U1000 \$100. No limit in Open. Balance to next prize winners. Free EF (deducted from prizes) and \$100 appearance award to all GM and IM if paid by 3/4/2019. All EF add \$20 after 3/4/2019. NYSCA members deduct \$3. All sections USCF rated. Ratings as in March Supplement. Bring sets, boards, and clocks — none provided. Food court and chess books & equipment sales available on-site. No smoking allowed on The Strong campus. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:15am. **Rds.:** Sat. 10-2:15-6:30, Sun. 10-2:15. One 1/2 point bye available in rds. 1, 2, 3, or 4 if requested at entry. Optional first round Friday, 3/15/2019 at 7pm played at Rochester Chess Center (register by 6:30pm). **Info:** 585-442-2430. Mail entry to: Rochester Chess Center, 221 Norris Dr., Rochester, NY 14610. Web: nychess.org. Store: chessset.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, MISSOURI
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)
23RD ANNUAL MID-AMERICA OPEN
5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Clayton Plaza Hotel St. Louis-Clayton, 7750 Carondelet Ave., St. Louis. MO 63105 (I-64 W/US 40-W Exit 32B, 1.2 miles north on Hanley Rd). Free parking. **\$\$ 20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES.** In 6 sections: **Major:** Open to 1800/over. \$2000-1000-600-400, clear winner or 1st on tiebreak \$100 bonus, top U2300 \$800-400. FIDE. **Under 2100:** \$1500-700-500-300. **Under 1900:** \$1500-700-500-300. **Under 1700:** \$1400-700-500-300. **Under 1500:** \$1200-600-400-300. **Under 1250:** \$900-500-300-200. **Prize limits:** Unrated may

26th annual WESTERN CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS March 1-3 or 2-3, 2019 - Van Nuys (Los Angeles), California

Airtel Plaza Hotel- \$8 day parking, \$12 overnight, \$20,000 guaranteed prizes!

5 rounds, 40/100, SD/30, d10 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/60, d10). Both schedules merge & play for same prizes. **Airtel Plaza Hotel,** 7277 Valjean Ave, Van Nuys CA 91406. Free wireless, indoor pool, hot tubs, shuttle from bus/train; restaurants within walking distance. LAX/Van Nuys bus about \$10.

\$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES. In 7 sections:
Master Section (over 2199): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear/tiebreak 1st \$100, top U2300 \$800-400. FIDE, 120 GPP.
Expert Section (2000-2199): \$1500-700-400-200.
Class A Section (1800-1999): \$1500-700-400-200.
Class B Section (1600-1799/Unr): \$1500-700-400-200.
Class C Section (1400-1599/Unr): \$1200-600-300-200.
Class D Section (1200-1399/Unr): \$1000-500-300-200.
Class E Section (Under 1200/Unr): \$600-300-200-100.

Rated players may play up one section. Unrated must play in A or below with prize limit E \$100, D \$200, C \$300. B \$400. Balance goes to next player(s) in line.
Mixed doubles bonus prizes: best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$500-300-200. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register by 2 pm March 2.

Top 6 sections entry fee: \$123 online at chessaction.com by 2/27, 3-day \$128, 2-day \$127 if check mailed by 2/20, all \$140 online until 2 hours before round 1 or at site until 1 hour before. No checks at site, credit cards OK.
Class E Section entry fee: all fees \$50 less than top 6 sections.
All: Special USCF dues with magazine if paid with online entry fee: Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. By mail or at site: \$40, \$25 and \$17. Re-entry \$60 (not available to go from Master Section to Master Section).

Online entry fee \$5 less to SCCF members (join/renew at scchess.com).
3-day schedule: Reg. Fri to 6 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 5 pm, Sun 10 am & 3:30 pm.
2 day schedule: Reg Sat to 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30.
Half point byes OK all rounds; limit 2, Master must commit before round 2, others before round 3.

Bring set, board, clock if possible- none supplied (for sale at site).
Hotel rates: \$119-119, 818-997-7676 or use link at chesstour.com, reserve by 2/18 or rate may increase.
March official ratings used (web unofficial ratings usually used if otherwise unrated).
Entry: chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham NY 10803. \$15 charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).
Blitz tournament Sat 9:30 pm, reg. by 9:15 pm, entry fee \$20.

not win over \$150 in U1250, \$300 U1500, or \$500 U1700. **Mixed doubles:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$800-400-200. Must average under 2200, may play in different sections, register (no extra fee) by 2 pm 3/23. **Top 6 sections EF:** \$113 at chessaction.com by 3/20, 3-day \$118, 2-day \$117 mailed by 3/13, \$130 online until 2 hours before round 1 or at site. GMs \$100 from prize. **U1250 Section EF:** all \$20 less than above. **Online EF \$3 less** to MCA members. **No checks at site**, credit cards OK. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 yr USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry** \$60; not available in Major Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **Byes:** OK all, limit 2; Major must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 3. **HR:** \$105-108-113-118, includes free full hot buffet breakfast. 888-303-1746, 314-726-5400, request chess rate, reserve by 3/8 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chess-tour.com. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: DirectorAtChess.US, chesstour.com, chesstour.info, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (online entries posted instantly). **Blitz tournament** Saturday 9:30 pm, enter by 9:15 pm.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 29-31 OR 30-31, OHIO

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20

56TH CINCINNATI OPEN

Hilton Garden Inn, 5300 Cornell Rd., Blue Ash, OH 45242. **5SS; Sections:** Championship (FIDE rated), U2100, U1700, U1300. Players may choose to play up, but only one section. **Time Control:** Championship section 40/90, SD/30, +30 except 2-day rds. 1&2 G/75 d5. Other sections G/120 d5. **Prizes:** Championship: \$800-550-400-300, top under 2200 \$250-200; U2100: \$550-400-300-200, top under 1900 \$200-150; U1700: \$400-300-200-150, top under 1500 \$175-125; U1300: \$300-200-150-125, top under 1100 \$150-125; prizes based on 120 paid entries, else proportional. No unrated may win more than the third-place prize amount. **Entry fee:** Advance \$109, must be received by 9:00 am, March 29; onsite \$120; re-entry \$50. \$10 discount for all who played in 2018 Cincinnati Open, \$5 discount for all others who played in any Cincinnati Open 2012-2017. Free entry to GMs/IMs/WGMs/WIMs; \$109 less applicable discount deducted from prize. **Advance registration:** Go to www.chesscincinnati.com to enter online or download entry form; mail entries to Cincinnati Open, 9180 Pinewood Dr, Loveland, OH 45140. **Onsite registration:** Friday, Mar 29 5:30-6:30 pm; Saturday, Mar 30 8:00-10:00 am. **Championship 3-day schedule:** Fri 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 9:30 & 3. **Championship 2-day schedule:** Sat 11, 2 & 6, Sun 9:30 & 3. **U2100, U1700 and U1300 sections:** Fri 7, Sat 9:30, 2 & 7, Sun 9:30 & 2. Six rounds are scheduled; every player must select one zero-point bye round so that all players play a five-round schedule. **Half-point byes:** Up to two optional half-point byes, additional to zero-point bye, must commit

before 5:00 pm Sat. **HR:** \$99/king bed, \$110/two queen beds, rate includes breakfast for two. Reserve by Thursday, Feb 28 to ensure rate and room. For reservations, call 513-469-6900, or use link on our website to book online. *Bring sets and clock.* Complete information, including online and mail-in entry forms, at www.chesscincinnati.com. **Questions:** info@chesscincinnati.com or call/text Alan at 513-600-9915.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 30-31, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15

2019 NORTH BAY CHESS FESTIVAL BY NOVATO CHECKMATES Novato Downtown Recreation Center, 950 7th St., Novato, CA 94945. FREE parking! Novato Checkmates club members - discounted entry fees! **Sat, Mar 30 only: Rising Star** PK-12; 3xG/30 d5 - non rated, Onsite Reg.: 9-9:30a, Rounds 10a-1p; EF: \$10/\$5(memb) **Kids Quads:** PK-12; 3xG/30 d5, Trophies: players w + score. Sched: Reqrd. Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:30-5p. EF: \$20/\$15(memb) **Simultaneous Exhibition:** 20-boards simul, Onsite reg: 5-5:30p, Simul starts 6p, EF \$15/10(memb). March 30-31 **(2-day): 1st Novato Open Prizes:** Prize: \$3500/b100. **Open (2000+, FIDE):** \$1000-500-200 u2200: \$200-100-50; **AB (1600-1999):** \$500-200-100 u1800: \$100-50, **CDEu (u1600):** \$300-100-50 u1400: \$50. March 2019 Suppl, CCCmin & TD disc. **Open/FIDE-2-day:** 4SS G/90+30inc Reg.: 9:30-9:45a. **Rds.:** Sat 10a, 2p. Sun 11a, 3p. **AB/CDEu** G/61 d5: **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45a. **Rds.:** Sun: 9a, 11:30a, 2p, 4:30p. **EF:**\$45/\$35(memb). After 3/26 +15, playup +15, re-entry: \$20, GMs/IMs - \$0 by 3/23. **Info:** www.novatocheckmates.org. Special disc rooms at Novato Courtyard Marriott, to reserve call 415-883-8950. W.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, MASSACHUSETTS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)

28TH ANNUAL EASTERN CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Host Hotel at Cedar Lake, 366 Main St., Sturbridge, MA 01566 (I-84 Exit 3, near I-90). Free parking. **\$520,000 guaranteed prizes.** In 7 sections: **Master** (2200/up): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear winner or 1st on tiebreak \$100 bonus, top U2300 \$800-400. FIDE. **Expert** (2000-2199): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class A** (1800-1999/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class B** (1600-1799/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class C** (1400-1599/Unr): \$1300-700-400-300. **Class D** (1200-1399/Unr): \$700-400-200-100. **Class E** (Under 1200/Unr): \$600-300-200-100. **Rated players** may play up one section. **Prize limits:** Unrated may not win over \$100 in E, \$200 D, \$300 C or \$400 B. **Mixed doubles bonus prizes:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$600-300. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) by 2 pm 4/6. **Top 5 sections EF:** \$115 online at chessaction.com by 4/3, 3-day \$118, 2-day \$117 mailed by 3/26, \$130 at site, or online until 2 hours before round 1. GMs \$100 from prize. **Class D or E EF:** All \$50 less than top 5 sections EF. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. **Online EF** \$5 less to MACA members; may join/renew at masschess.org. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually

used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 yr USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry** \$60; not available in Master Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 3:30. **Byes:** OK all, limit 2; Master must commit before rd. 2, others before rd. 3. **HR:** \$99-99-109, 800-582-3232, 508-347-7393, request chess rate, reserve by 3/22 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: DirectorAtChess.us, chess-tour.com, chesstour.info, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entry). **Blitz tournament** Sat 9:30 pm, enter by 9:15 pm.

An American Classic!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, CONNECTICUT

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)

13TH ANNUAL OPEN AT FOXWOODS

Open Section, Apr 17-21: 9SS, 40/2, SD/30 d10. FIDE rated, GM & IM norms possible. **Other Sections, Apr 18-21 or 19-21:** 7SS, 40/2, SD/30, d10 (3-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). **Foxwoods Resort** Casino & Hotel, Rt. 2, Mashantucket, CT 06339 (I-95 to Exit 92 to Rt. 2 West, or I-395 to Exit 85 to Rt. 164 to Rt. 2 East). Free parking. 45 miles from T.F. Green Airport (Providence, RI), 14 miles from Groton/New London Airport; for shuttle from New London Amtrak station call 1-800-USA-RAIL. Bus transportation: 1-888-BUS2FOX. Free shuttle to Mashantucket Pequot Museum, largest Native American museum in USA. **Prizes \$100,000** based on 650 entries (seniors, re-entries, GMs, IMs, WGMs, foreign FIDE & U1100 Section count as half entries), else proportional, minimum \$75,000 (75% of each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections: **Open:** \$10000-5000-2500-1500-1000-700-600-500-400-400, clear/tiebreak winner \$200 bonus, FIDE 2250-2399 \$3000-1500, FIDE Under 2250/Unr \$3000-1500. **Under 2200/Unr, Under 2000/Unr, Under 1800:** each \$5000-3000-1600-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300. Unrated prize limit in U2000, \$2000. **Under 1600:** \$4000-2000-1300-900-600-500-400-400-300-300. **Under 1400:** \$3000-1800-1000-800-600-500-400-400-300-300. **Under 1100/Unr:** \$1500-800-600-500-400-300-300-200-200-200; unrated limit \$400. **Mixed Doubles:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$1200-800-600-400-200. In Open Section, only first 7 rounds counted toward mixed doubles. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2. **Prize limits:** 1) Players with under 26 lifetime games rated as of April 2019 official rating may not win over \$800 in U1100, \$1500 U1400, \$2500 U1600 or U1800. Games rated too late for April 2019 list not counted. 2) Unrated prize limit \$2000 in U2000, \$400 in U1100. 3) If any post-event rating posted 4/15/18-4/15/19 was more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$1500. 4) Balance of limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **EF:** \$208 online at chessaction.com by 2/11, \$228 online by 4/16, all \$250 at site. Mailed EF \$215 by 2/11, \$225 by 4/8, do not mail after 4/8. **Open Section EF \$100 more** to US players not USCF

GOLD & SILVER AFFILIATES

GOLD Any affiliate that has submitted at least 50 US Chess memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Gold Affiliate. Gold Affiliates are honored in a special list in larger type in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and website. Gold Affiliation costs \$350 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation, or \$20 for each month remaining on their Silver Affiliation. **By paying an annual payment of \$500 (instead of \$350), Gold Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.**

SILVER Any affiliate that has submitted at least 25 US Chess memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Silver Affiliate. These affiliates will be recognized in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, state, and choice of either phone number, e-mail address, or website. Silver Affiliation costs \$150 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation. **Alternatively, for an annual payment of \$250.00 (instead of \$150), the requirement for a minimum number of US Chess members will be waived.**

Berkeley Chess School (CA)
www.berkeleychessschool.org

En Passant Chess Club (TX)
td_edg@twc.com

Evangel Chess Club (AL)
www.evangelchurch.me

Jersey Shore HS Chess League (NJ)
shorechessleague@yahoo.com

Little House of Chess, Inc. (NY)
littlehouseofchess.com

Michigan Chess Association (MI)
www.michess.org

Oklahoma Chess Foundation (OK)
www.OCFchess.org

Rochester Chess Center (NY)
<http://www.chessset.com>

Sparta Chess Club (NJ)
www.spartachessclub.org

Success Chess School (CA)
www.successchess.com

Bay Area Chess
2050 Concourse Drive #42
San Jose, CA 95131
408-409-6596
ask@bayareachess.com
www.bayareachess.com

Cajun Chess
12405 Hillary Step Drive
Olive Branch, MS 38654
504-208-9596
cajunchess@yahoo.com
www.cajunchess.com

Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis
4657 Maryland Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-361-CHESS
info@saintlouischessclub.org
www.saintlouischessclub.org

ChessNYC.com
Michael Propper
P.O. Box 189, 1710 1st Avenue
New York, NY 10128
212-475-8130
info@chessnyc.com
www.chessnyc.com

Continental Chess Association
P.O. Box 8482
Pelham, NY 10803
director@chess.us
www.chesstour.com

Marshall Chess Club
23 West 10th Street
New York, NY 10011
212-477-3716
admin@marshallchessclub.org
www.marshallchessclub.org

PaperClip Pairings
c/o Remy Ferrari
4 Jalapa Court
Brownsville, TX 78526
956-621-0377
rrferrari@bisd.us

San Diego Chess Club
2225 Sixth Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101
619-752-4377
chucnglo@aol.com
www.sandiegochessclub.org

UPDATED 11-01-2018

or FIDE rated 2200/over. **GMs, foreign IMs/WGMs in Open:** \$180 less (\$200 deducted from prize), US IMs/WGMs & FIDE rated foreign players \$100 less (\$100 deducted from prize). EF deduction cannot lower prize to below the minimum. **Minimum prize guarantees** in Open to players who enter online by 4/3 and play all 9 games with no byes: US GM \$300, foreign GM \$700 (limited to first 8 to enter, others \$400), foreign IM/WGM \$400 (limited to first 8 to enter), foreign FM/WIM \$300. **Under 1100 Section EF:** all \$100 less. **Seniors 65/over in U1400 to U2200:** All EF \$100 less. CSCA members: online EF \$4 less. **No checks** at site; credit cards OK. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry:** \$100, no re-entry from Open Section to Open Section. **5-day schedule (Open Section):** Reg. ends Wed 6 pm, rds. Wed. 7 pm, Thu 12 & 7, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **4-day schedule (no Open):** Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **3-day schedule (no Open):** Reg. ends Fri 10 am, rds. Fri 11, 2:30 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **4-day & 3-day** merge & compete for same prizes. **Byes:** all including rd. 9; limit 4 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), Open must commit before rd. 3, others before rd. 4. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible- none supplied. **HR:** Grand Pequot Tower (tournament site, very luxurious): Friday & Saturday \$205, other days \$149. Fox Tower (formerly MGM Grand, 5-7 minute walk from tournament in connected building): Friday & Saturday \$175, other days \$119. Two Trees Inn (15-20 minute walk from tournament, free shuttle), Friday & Saturday \$145, other days \$99. For all, \$4.95 resort fee, includes high speed wired internet, fitness center, pool, spa, in room coffee & tea, etc. 1-800-FOXWOOD or use link at chesstour.com, reserve by 4/4 or rate may increase. **Car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633 or reserve car online at chesstour.com. **Foreign player ratings:** see www.chesstour.com/foreignratings.htm. **Electronic devices rules:** See www.chesstour.com/devices.htm. Please leave your phone in your hotel room, your car, home, or in a bag near your table. **Ratings:** FIDE ratings used in Open, April USCF official in other sections. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: Director@chess.us, chesstour.com, chesstour.info, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entering). Blitz tournament Sat. 10:30 pm, reg. By 10 pm.

APR. 20, CONNECTICUT
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)
FOXWOODS BLITZ (BLZ)

5SS, G/5 d0, double round, 10 games. Foxwoods Resort Casino & Hotel (see Foxwoods Open). **\$2000 guaranteed prizes:** \$400-250-150, 2000-2199 \$200-100, U2000/Unr \$200-100, U1800 \$180-90, U1600 \$150-80, U1300 \$100. **EF:** \$40 by 7 pm 4/20, \$50 by 10 pm 4/20. GMs free; \$40 from prize. Enter at site only, no checks. **Reg.:** ends 10 pm, rds. 10:30, 11, 11:30, 12, 12:30. 1 bye allowed (1 point out of 2), must give notice before rd. 2. Blitz rated, but higher of regular or blitz used for pairings & prizes. \$20 service charge for refunds.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAY 4, MAINE

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6
DOWNEAST OPEN
Bonny Eagle Middle School, 92 Sokokis Trail, Buxton, ME. A Maine Chess Player of the Year Event! Maine Chess Association membership required. **4SS in three sections:** OPEN and U1500 G/60 d10; U1000 G/45 d5. **EF:** EF Open \$50 by 5/3, \$55 at door; U1550 \$35/\$40; U1000 \$15/\$20. **Prizes based on 25 entries:** OPEN \$350/\$250/\$150/U1700 \$75; U1550 \$245/\$175/\$105/U1300 \$50; U1000 trophies for top 3. **Reg.:** 8-9 AM, OPEN and U1550 rounds at 9:10, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00; U1000 rounds at 9:10, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00. **Contact:** Michael Dudley at mainechesspresident@gmail.com to preregister!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAY 22, MAINE
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6
CHESSMAINE.NET CHAMPIONSHIP
John Bapst MHS, 100 Broadway, Bangor, ME 04401. A Maine Chess Player of the Year Event! ME Chess Assn membership required. **4SS in 3 sections:** OPEN and U1550 G/60 d10; U1000 G/45 d5. **EF:** Open \$40 by 6/21, \$45 at door; U1550 \$30/\$35; U1000 \$15/\$20. **Prizes based on 25 entries:** OPEN: \$300/\$200/\$100/U1700 \$75; U1550: \$200/ \$125/\$75/U1300 \$50; U1000: trophies for top 3. **Reg.:** 8-9 AM, OPEN and U1550 rounds at 9:10, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00; U1000 rounds at 9:10, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00. **Contact:** Michael Dudley at mainechesspresident@gmail.com to preregister!

An American Classic!
A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, ILLINOIS
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)
28TH ANNUAL CHICAGO OPEN
Open Section, May 23-27: 9SS, 40/2, SD/30 d10, GM & IM norms possible, FIDE rated. **Other Sections, May 24-27, 25-27 or 26-27:** 7SS, 40/2, SD/30 d10 (3-day option, rds 1-2 G/60 d10; 2-day option, rds. 1-4 G/30 d10). **Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel**, 601 North Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling, IL 60090 (from Chicago, I-294 north to US-45 north; from Milwaukee, I-94 east to Lake Cook Rd to US-45 south.) Free parking. **Free lectures and analysis of your games** by GM John Fedorowicz. **\$100,000 guaranteed prize fund.** In 8 sections (unrated allowed only in Open, U2300, U2100 or U1000). **Open:** Open to players who are rated 2200/over by USCF or FIDE or pay \$100 extra. \$10000-5000-2500-1300-1000-800-600-500-400-400, clear or tiebreak winner bonus \$300, top FIDE Under 2400/Unr \$2000-1000. FIDE rated, GM and IM norms possible. **Under 2300:** \$5000-2500-1200-800-600-500-400-300-300-300. **Under 2100:** \$5000-2500-1200-800-600-500-400-300-300-300; unrated limit \$1000. **Under 1900:** \$5000-2500-1200-800-600-500-400-300-300-300. **Under 1700:** \$5000-2500-1200-800-600-500-400-300-300-300. **Under 1500:** \$4000-2000-1000-700-500-400-300-300-300-300. **Under 1300:** \$4000-2000-1000-700-500-400-300-300-300-300. **Under 1000:** \$1000-500-300-200-200-150-150-100- 100-100, unrated limit \$200, trophies to first 10, top U800, U600, Unrated. **Prize limits:** 1) If any post-event rating posted 5/21/18-5/21/19 was more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$1500. 2) Players with under 26 lifetime games rated

as of May 2019 official list cannot win over \$500 in U1000, \$1000 U1300, \$1500 U1500, \$2000 U1700, or \$2500 U1900. 3) Balance of any limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$2000-1000-500-400-300. For Open Section, only rounds 1-7 counted towards mixed doubles. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2; teams including an unrated limited to \$500. **Open through U1300 entry fee:** \$207 online at chessaction.com by 3/19, \$227 by 5/22. 5-day \$215, 4-day \$214, 3-day \$213, 2-day \$212 mailed by 3/19, all \$20 more mailed by 5/11. All \$250 online until 2 hours before round 1 or at site until 1 hour before round 1. No checks at site, credit cards OK. Do not mail entry after 5/11. **Open EF for titled players:** GMs free; \$200 deducted from prize. IMs/WGMs \$100, also \$100 deducted from prize. **EF \$100 less** to seniors age 65/over, except U1000 Section. **Under 1000 Section EF:** \$67 online at chessaction.com by 5/22, 4-day \$74, 3-day \$73, 2-day \$72 mailed by 5/11, all \$90 online until 2 hours before round 1 or at site until 1 hour before round 1. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. **Online EF** \$5 less to ICA members; join at il-chess.org. An ICA Tour Event. **Special 1 yr US Chess dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction.com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry:** \$100, no Open to Open. **5-day schedule** (Open only): Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **4-day schedule** (U2300 to U1500): Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, Rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **3-day schedule** (U2300 to U1500): Reg. ends Sat 10 am, Rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule** (U2300 to U1500): Reg. ends Sun 9 am, Rds. Sun 10, 12, 2, 3:45 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **Under 1300 & Under 1000 schedules:** Same as U2300 to U1500 (4-day, 3-day, 2-day options), except last round Mon is 3:15. **4-day, 3-day & 2-day** schedules merge & compete for same prizes. **Byes:** OK all, limit 4 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), Open must commit before rd. 3, others before rd. 4. **Hotel rates:** \$113-113-113-113, 800-937-8461, 847-777-6500, reserve by 5/9 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Foreign player ratings:** See www.chesstour.com/foreignratings.htm. **US player ratings:** May official ratings used; FIDE ratings used for Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special rules:** Players must submit to a search for electronic devices if requested by Director. See also chesstour.com/devices.htm. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. **Questions:** chesstour.com, chesstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Entries** posted at chessaction.com (click “entry list” after entry). **Bring set, board, clock** if possible- none supplied.

JUNE 11-12, NEVADA
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)
2019 U.S. WOMEN’S OPEN
See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, NEVADA
US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 300 (ENHANCED)
2019 NATIONAL OPEN
See Nationals.

2019 Open Correspondence Chess Golden Knights Championship

US CHESS
72st ANNUAL

\$800 FIRST PRIZE

(PLUS TITLE OF US CHESS GOLDEN KNIGHTS CHAMPION AND PLAQUE)

2ND PLACE \$500 • 3RD \$300 • 4TH THRU 10TH PLACE \$100 EACH • ENTRY FEE: \$25

These US Chess Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all US Chess members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaii, as well as those US Chess members with an APO or FPO address. US Chess members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your US Chess membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Those new to US Chess Correspondence Chess, please estimate your strength: **Class A:** 1800-1999 (very strong); **Class B:** 1600-1799 (strong); **Class C:** 1400-1599 (intermediate); **Class D:** 1399 and below (beginner level). **Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

2019 E-mail Correspondence Chess Electronic Knights Championship

US CHESS
16th ANNUAL

\$800 FIRST PRIZE

(PLUS TITLE OF US CHESS ELECTRONIC KNIGHTS CHAMPION AND PLAQUE)

2ND PLACE \$500 • 3RD \$300 • 4TH THRU 10TH PLACE \$100 EACH • ENTRY FEE: \$25

These US Chess Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all US Chess members with e-mail access. Your US Chess membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten. **Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

TO ENTER: 800-903-USCF(8723) OR FAX 931-787-1200 OR ONLINE AT WWW.USCHESS.ORG

Name_____US CHESS ID#_____

Address_____City_____State____ZIP_____

Phone_____E-mail_____Est. Rating_____

To pay with credit card please call US Chess.

☐ Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated.
*Note: This may slow down your assignment.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO US CHESS AND MAIL TO: JOAN DUBOIS, US CHESS, PO BOX 3967, CROSSVILLE, TN 38557

Correspondence Chess Matches (two players)

TWO OR SIX-GAME OPTIONS. ENTRY FEE: \$5.

☐ WIN A CORRESPONDENCE CHESS TROPHY

Four-player, double round-robin with rating-level (0000-1499; 1500-1799; 1800-2000+) pairings. 1st-place winner receives a trophy.
ENTRY FEE: \$10.

☐ VICTOR PALCIAUSKAS PRIZE TOURNAMENTS

Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents. 1st-place winner receives \$130 cash prize and a certificate signed by Victor Palciauskas.
ENTRY FEE: \$25.

☐ JOHN W. COLLINS MEMORIAL CLASS TOURNAMENTS

Four-player, double round-robin with rating-level (0000-1499; 1500-1799; 1800-2000+) pairings (unrateds welcome). 1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate.
ENTRY FEE: \$7.

Email Rated Events (need email access)

☐ LIGHTNING MATCH

Two players with two or six-game option.
ENTRY FEE: \$5.

☐ SWIFT QUADS

Four-player, double round-robin format.
1st-place prize US Chess CC entry credit of \$30.
Rating-Levels 0000-1499; 1500-1799; 1800-2000+.
ENTRY FEE: \$10.

☐ WALTER MUIR E-QUADS (WEBSEVER CHESS)

Four-player, double round-robin webserver format tournament with class-level pairings. 1st-place receives a certificate.
ENTRY FEE: \$7.

Please check event(s) selected.

NOTE: Except for Lightning Matches, Swift Quads, Walter Muir E-Quads & Electronic Knights, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

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US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JUNE 27-JULY 1, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)

13TH ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL

9SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates, parking). **\$30,000 guaranteed prizes.** In 2 sections. Both are FIDE rated; Premier uses June FIDE ratings for pairings & prizes, Expert section uses July USCF ratings (or converted FIDE for foreign players if higher). **Premier:** open to FIDE 2000/over, USCF 2100/over or invitees. GM & IM norms possible. Prizes \$6000-4000-2000-1000-800-600-500-400, clear or tiebreak bonus \$100, top FIDE under 2300/unr \$2000-1000. **Expert:** Open to players who are both Under 2200 USCF and Under 2100 FIDE. Prizes \$4000-2000-1000-700-500-400-300-200, top USCF under 2000/unr \$1600-800. **Premier minimum prize guarantees:** \$600 to foreign GMs, \$300 to foreign IMs/WGMs (must complete all 9 games with no byes; limited to first 8 foreign GMs & first 8 foreign IMs/WGMs to enter by 5/24 at chessaction.com). Minimum prize \$300 to other GMs (including US) who enter at chessaction.com by 5/24 and complete all 9 games with no byes. **Nonresident aliens:** see US tax laws at chessaction.org. **Premier EF: GMs, IMs, WGMs:** \$50 online at chessaction.com by 5/24, \$75 by 6/24, \$100 6/25-26 or at site; \$100 deducted from prize (no deduction from minimum prize). **Foreign FIDE rated players:** \$100 online at chessaction.com by 5/24, \$125 by 6/24, \$150 6/25-26 or at site. **US FIDE Masters:** \$200 online by 5/24, \$225 by 6/24, \$250 6/25-26 or at site. **US players USCF or FIDE rated 2100/up:** \$300 online by 5/24, \$325 by 6/24, \$350 6/25-26 or at site. **US players USCF or FIDE rated 2000-2099:** \$400 online by 5/24, \$425 by 6/24, \$450 6/25-26 or at site. **Expert Section EF:** \$250 online by 5/24, \$275 by 6/24, \$300 6/25-26 or at site. **All:** Mailed entry all \$10 more; do not mail entry after 6/15. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine: see World Open. **Schedule:** Late reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 1 & 7, Sat 11 & 5, Sun/Mon 10 & 4. Two half point byes available; must commit before rd. 3; FIDE norm in Premier not possible if taking bye. **HR:** see World Open. **Bring set, board, clock** if possible- none supplied. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Questions: DirectorAtChess.us, 347-201-2269. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering). Invitations: Go@Chess.us.

JUNE 28-30, ILLINOIS

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40

2019 U.S. SENIOR OPEN

See Nationals.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80 (ENHANCED)

13TH ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA OPEN

5SS, 40/100, SD/30 d10 (2-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10). Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates, parking). **\$15,000 guaranteed prize fund.** In 6 sections. **Major:** Open to 1800/up. Prizes \$1600-800-500-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2200 \$600-300. **Under 2000:** \$1200-600-400-200. **Under 1800:** \$1200-600- 400-200. **Under 1600:** \$1000-500-300-200. **Under 1400:** \$1000-500-300- 200. **Under 1100:** \$700-400-200-100. **Unrated** may not win over \$100 in U1100, \$200 U1400, \$300 U1600, \$400 U1800, or \$600 U2000. **Mixed doubles bonus prizes:** best male/female 2-player team combined score among all sections: \$400-200. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; must register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2. **Top 5 sections EF:** \$118 online at chessaction.com by 6/26, 3-day \$123, 2-day \$122 mailed by 6/15, all \$130 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before rd. 1. GMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **Under 1100 Section EF:** all \$30 less than above. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction. com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Re-entry \$60;** not available in Major Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 5, Sun 10 & 4. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2 & 5, Sun 10 & 4. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Major must commit before rd. 2, others

before rd. 3. **HR:** \$115-115, 215-625-2900; reserve early, chess block may sell out by early June. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Questions: www.chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.us, 347-201- 2269. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JULY 1-2, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)

8TH ANNUAL WORLD OPEN WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

5SS, G/90 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates, parking). Open to all females. **Prizes \$2000** based on 24 entries, \$1200 (60% each prize) minimum guarantee. \$800-400-200, top U2000 \$250, U1700/Unr \$200, U1400 \$150, plaques to 1st, top U1200/Unr, U1000. **EF:** \$88 online at chessaction.com by 6/29, \$92 mailed by 6/15, \$100 at site, or online until 8 am 7/1. GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs free; \$80 from prize. Reg. ends 9 am 7/1, rds. Mon 10, 2 & 6, Tue 10 & 2. **Half point byes** OK all rounds, limit 2 byes (limit 1 bye if under 1400), must commit before rd. 3. **Special USCF dues:** see World Open. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JULY 1-2, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

WORLD OPEN WARMUP

5SS, G/90 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open). Open to all. **Prizes \$1200 guaranteed:** \$250-150-100, U2100 \$140-70, U1850 \$120-60, U1600/Unr \$110-60, U1300 \$90-50. **EF:** \$42 online by 6/29, \$47 mailed by 6/15, \$60 7/1 at site by 9 am or online by 8 am. No checks at site. **Reg.** ends 9 am 7/1, **rds.** Mon 10, 2, 6, Tue 10, 2. One half point bye allowed if under 1600, otherwise two byes allowed; must commit before rd. 2. Special USCF dues: see World Open. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

JULY 2, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

7TH ANNUAL WORLD OPEN ACTION CHAMPIONSHIP

5SS, G/25 d5. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, 1201 Market St., Philadelphia 19107 (see World Open for rates & parking info). **Prizes \$2000** based on 55 entries, \$1400 minimum (70% each prize) guaranteed. In 2 sections. **Open,** open to all: \$400-200-150, U2200/Unr \$180-90, U2000/Unr \$160-80. **Under 1800/Unr:** \$250-120-60, U1600 (no Unr) \$140-70, U1400 (no Unr) \$100. **EF:** \$53 online at chessaction.com by 6/30, \$70 online by 11 am 7/2 or at site. GMs \$50 from prize. **Reg. ends** 12 noon 7/2, rounds 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00. **Half point byes** OK all rounds, limit 2 byes (limit 1 bye if U2000 in Open or U1400 in U1800), must commit before rd. 2. **Special USCF dues:** see World Open. **\$15 service charge** for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 300 (ENHANCED)

47TH ANNUAL WORLD OPEN

9SS, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, 1201 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19107, directly across the street from the world famous Reading Terminal Market with over 80 food vendors. In 9 sections. **\$225,000 guaranteed prizes.** Unrated may enter only Open, U2200, U2000, or Unrated Sections. Free analysis of your games by GM Sam Palatnik 7/3-7, free GM lectures 9 am 7/5 & 7/6. **Open Section, July 3-7 only:** Open to all rated 2200/over USCF or FIDE, or must pay \$100 more. 40/2, SD/30 d10. **Under 2200 to Under 1200 Sections, July 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 or 5-7:** 40/2, SD/30 d10 (4-day option, rds. 1-2 G/60 d10; 3-day option, rds. 1-5 G/35

d10). **Under 900 Section & Unrated Section, July 5-7 only:** G/60 d10, play separate schedule. **Open:** \$20000-10000-5000-2500-1300-1000-800-700-600-500, clear winner bonus \$500, top FIDE 2300-2449 \$5000-2500-1500, top FIDE 2200-2299 \$5000-2500-1500. Top FIDE U2200/Unr \$5000-2500-1500. If tie for first, top 2 on tiebreak play speed game 10 pm 7/7 for title & bonus prize. GM & IM norms possible. FIDE rated. **Under 2200/Unr:** \$12000-6000-3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400- 400, top U2100 (no unr) \$2000-1000, unrated limit \$2000. **Under 2000/Unr:** \$12000-6000-3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400, top U1900 (no unr) \$2000-1000, unrated limit \$1000. **Under 1800:** \$12000-6000-3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400, top U1700 \$2000-1000. **Under 1600:** \$10000-5000-2500-1300-900-700-600-500-400-400, top U1500 \$2000-1000. **Under 1400:** \$8000-4000-2000- 1300-900-700-600-500-400-400, top U1300 \$1600-800. **Under 1200:** \$4000-2000-1000-800-600-500- 400-400-300-300, top U1000 \$1000-500. **Under 900:** \$600-400-300-200-100, plaques to top 10. **Unrated:** \$600-400-300-200-100, plaques to top 10. **Prize limits:** 1) If any post-event rating posted 6/29/18-6/29/19 was more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$2000. 2) Players with under 26 lifetime games rated as of July 2019 official list cannot win over \$1000 in U1200, \$2000 U1400, \$3000 U1600 through U2000. Games rated too late for July official list not counted toward 26 game total. 3) Balance of any limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$3000- 1500-700-500-300. Team must average under 2200; may play in different sections; register (no extra fee) before both players begin round 2; teams including an unrated limited to \$500. **Entry fee** for Open through U1400 sections: **Online at chessaction.com:** \$308 by 4/15, \$318 by 5/15, \$328 by 6/29, \$350 at site until 1 1/2 hours before round 1, or online until 2 hours before. **Mailed by 5/15:** 6-day \$326, 5-day \$325, 4-day \$324, 3-day \$323. **Mailed by 6/15:** all \$10 more. **All \$100 more** for Open Section if not rated 2200/over by USCF or FIDE. **Do not mail** entry after 6/15. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **GMs in Open:** free; \$200 deducted from prize. **IMs, WGMs in Open:** EF \$100 less. **Under 1200 Section EF:** all \$100 less than above. **Seniors 65/up:** all EF \$100 less in U1400 or above sections. **U900 Section or Unrated Section EF:** \$68 online at chessaction. com by 6/30, \$73 mailed by 6/15, \$80 at site until 9:30 am 7/5 or online until 9 am 7/5. **No checks** at site; credit cards OK. **Re-entry: \$160,** no re-entry from Open to Open. **\$20 fee for switching section** after 7/1. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessaction. com, Adult \$35, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **6-day schedule:** Tue/Wed 7 pm, Thu 6 pm, Fri/Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 10 am & 4:30 pm. **5-day schedule:** Wed 7 pm, Thu-Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 10 am & 4:30 pm. **4-day schedule:** Thu 11, 2:30 & 6, Fri/Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **3-day schedule:** Fri 11, 1:30, 3:30, 6 & 8:30, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **U900 Section, Unrated Section schedule:** Fri 11, 2:30 & 6, Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10, 1:30 & 4:30. **All schedules** merge & compete for same prizes. **Half point byes** OK all, limit 4 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), Open must commit before rd. 3, others before rd. 5. **Entries, re-entries** close 90 minutes before round 1. **HR:** \$118-118-138, 215-625-2900, reserve early, chess block may sell out by early June. **Parking:** Marriott valet parking, about \$20/day (60% off regular rate) for first 100 valet parking spaces sold. Gateway Garage, 1540 Spring St. (3/5 mile from Marriott, 1 block from Philadelphia 201 Hotel (formerly Sheraton)), about \$7/day Sat & Sun, \$20/day other days. **Special car rental** rates: Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Foreign player ratings:** See www.chesstour.com/foreignratings. htm. **US player ratings:** Official July USCF ratings used; July FIDE ratings used for Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special rules:** Players may not possess cellphones during play; see chesstour.com/devices.htm. **Ent:** www.chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. **Questions:** chesstour.com, chesstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Entries** posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering). **Awards:** Open through U1800 prizes awarded 7/7, others mailed by 7/22. **Bring set, board, clock** if possible- none supplied. **Invitations:** Go@chess.us.

WORLD OPEN IN PHILADELPHIA!

9 rounds, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown - \$225,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES

Open Section: July 3-7, GM & IM norms possible
Under 2200 to Under 1200: 7/2-7, 3-7. 4-7 or 5-7
Under 900 Section, Unrated Section: July 5-7

5-DAY OR 6-DAY SCHEDULE: all 40/2, SD/30 d10.
4-DAY SCHEDULE: rounds 1-2 G/60 d10, then merges.
3-DAY SCHEDULE: rounds 1-5 G/35 d10, then merges.
U900 SCHEDULE, UNRATED SCHEDULE: all G/60 d10.

All schedules merge and compete for same prizes. Also International June 27-July 1, Philadelphia Open June 28-30, Warmup, Senior Amateur, Women, Under 13 July 1-2, many other events. See Tournament Life or chesstour.com.



JULY 3, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

8TH ANNUAL WORLD OPEN GAME/7 CHAMPIONSHIP

5-SS, double round (10 games), G/7 d2. Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open). Prizes \$1000 guaranteed: \$250-150-100, U2100 \$140-70, U1800 \$130-60, U1500/Unr \$100. EF: \$40, at site only, no checks. GMs \$40 from prize. **Reg.** ends 10:30 am, rds. 11, 12, 1, 2, 3. One pair of 1/2 pt byes available, must commit before rd 2. Blitz rated (will not affect regular ratings), but higher of regular or blitz used for pairings & prizes. \$15 service charge for refunds.

JULY 6, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)

WORLD OPEN G/10 CHAMPIONSHIP

5SS, G/10 d2. Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open). \$1500 guaranteed prizes. \$400-200-150, top U2200 \$220, U1950/Unr \$200, U1700 \$180, U1450 \$150. EF: \$40, at site only, no checks. GMs \$40 from prize. Reg: 6-9 pm, rounds 9:30, 10:10, 10:50, 11:30, 12:10. 1 half point bye available, must commit before rd. 2. Quick-rated (will not affect regular ratings); higher of regular or quick used for pairings & prizes. \$20 service charge for refunds.

JULY 7, PENNSYLVANIA

US CHESS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30 (ENHANCED)

WORLD OPEN BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP (BLZ)

5SS, G/5 d0 (double round, 10 games). Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open). \$3000 guaranteed prizes. In 2 sections: **Open Section:** \$500-300-200, top U2400 \$220-110, U2200/Unr \$200-100. **Under 2000 Section:** \$400-200-100, top U1800/Unr \$220-110, U1600 \$160-80, U1400 \$100, unrated limit \$200. **EF** (at site only, no checks): \$40 by 7 pm 7/7, \$50 after 7 pm 7/7. GMs \$40 from prize. **Reg.** ends 9:30 pm, rounds 10, 10:45, 11:20, 11:55, 12:30. Half point bye available (1 point out of 2); must commit before rd. 2. **Blitz rated** (will not affect regular ratings); higher of regular or blitz used for pairings & prizes. \$20 service charge for refunds.

Regional

ALABAMA

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Classes (All Ages)” Championships (GA)

See Georgia.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)

See Nationals.

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress (GA)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 23, Tom Nard Memorial V

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial (GA)

See Grand Prix.

ARIZONA

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Tuesday Night Open

4 or 5 round, USCF rated tournament; ROUND TIMES: 7:00pm. One game every Tuesday of the month: Time Control: 40/120, SD/60 d5. PRIZES: 1st Place and Class Prizes based on number of entries; ENTRY FEE: \$45; TO REGISTER: chessemposium.com, call 602-482-4867. SITE: 7000 E. Shea Blvd., Suite H-1910, Scottsdale, AZ 85254.

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, Tucson Open and Scholastics

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women’s Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

ARKANSAS

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

JAN. 12, Sacramento Luper\$swiss90 (3SS, G/90 d5)

Courtyard Marriott, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. **Prizes:** Prize: \$600 b/36. 1700+: \$150-100, u1900 50. u1700: \$150-100, u1600 50. Jan 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-1-4:30. **EF:** 43, Econ 33 w 1/2

prz. after 1/8+20, playoff +20, GMs/IMs - \$0 by 1/2. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix. W.

JAN. 12, Sacramento Kids Quads (PK-12; 3xG/30 d5)

Courtyard Marriott, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Reg** & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:30-5p. EF: 29, 44 after 1/8. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 12, Cupertino Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

NEW Venue: Aloft Cupertino, 10165 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/7. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/7. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 12, Pleasanton Kids & Quads (PK-12)

NEW Venue: Larkspur Landing, 5535 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 95336. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/7. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/7. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 12, Foster City G/75 (3SS, G/75 d5)

Foster City Courtyard Marriott, 550 Shell Blvd., Foster City, CA, 94404. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 50% guar. 1900+: \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-50. Jan 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3. **EF:** 50, Econ 40 w 1/2 prz. after 1/6 +20, playoff +20, GMs/IMs-\$0 by 1/2. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix.

JAN. 13, San Jose Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

BAC office: 2050 Concourse Drive #42, San Jose, CA 95131. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/8. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/8. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 13, Fremont G/60 (4SS, G/60 d5)

Fremont Marriott, 46100 Landing Pkwy., Fremont, CA 94538. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 50% guar. 1900+: \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-50. Jan 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-11:30-2-4:30. **EF:** 50, Econ 40 w 1/2 prz. after 1/7+20, playoff +20, GMs/IMs - \$0 by 1/3. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix. W.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 10th annual Golden State Open

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 19, Foster City Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Foster City Courtyard Marriott, 550 Shell Blvd., Foster City, CA, 94404. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/14. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/14. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 20, San Ramon Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Courtyard Marriott, 18090 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/15. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/15. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 21, Fremont Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Fremont Marriott, 46100 Landing Pkwy., Fremont, CA 94538. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/15. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/15. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 21, Pleasanton G/45 (4SS, G/45 d5)

NEW Venue: Larkspur Landing, 5535 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 95336. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 50% guar. 1900+: \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-50. Jan 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-11-12:45-2:30. **EF:** 50, Econ 40 w 1/2 prz. after 1/7+20, playoff +20, GMs/IMs - \$0 by 1/3. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix. W.

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, CM Azhar Memorial Championship

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 26, San Ramon Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Courtyard Marriott, 18090 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/21. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/21. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 26, Cupertino Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

NEW Venue: Aloft Cupertino, 10165 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/21. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/21. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

JAN. 27, Foster City Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Foster City Courtyard Marriott, 550 Shell Blvd., Foster City, CA, 94404. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/23. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/23. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

FEB. 2, Fremont Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Fremont Marriott, 46100 Landing Pkwy., Fremont, CA 94538. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/28. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/28 Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

FEB. 2, Cupertino G/45 (4SS, G/45 d5)

NEW Venue: Aloft Cupertino, 10165 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 50% guar. 1900+: \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-

50. Feb 19 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-11-12:45-2:30. **EF:** 50, Econ 40 w 1/2 prz. after 1/28+20, playoff +20, GMs/IMs - \$0 by 1/23. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix. W.

FEB. 2, Foster City Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

Foster City Courtyard Marriott, 550 Shell Blvd., Foster City, CA, 94404. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/28. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/28. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

FEB. 3, San Ramon Elite Quads (3RR, G/90 d5)

Courtyard Marriott, 18090 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. Rating Min: 1500+. **Prizes:** \$70/quad b20&more, otherwise \$50/quad. Current rating & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45a. Mandatory check-in at 8:50a, Rds. 9a & rolling schedule **EF:** 40 after 1/28+15, GMs/IMs-\$0 by 1/23. **Info:** http://BayAreaChess.com/elitequads. W.

FEB. 3, Pleasanton Kids Swiss & Quads (PK-12)

NEW Venue: Larkspur Landing, 5535 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 95336. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss (4SS, G/30 d5):** Reg.: 9-9:15a. Games: 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 36, 51 after 1/29. **Quads (3RR, G/30 d5):** Reg & Reqrđ Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:15-5p. **EF:** 31, 46 after 1/29. Info: http://BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

FEB. 16-18 OR 17-18, 2019 (35th Annual) U.S. Amateur Team Championship - West

See Nationals.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 30-31, 2019 North Bay Chess Festival by Novato Checkmates

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women’s Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

THE LOS ANGELES CHESS CLUB

The Most Active Club on the West Coast! (310) 795-5710. * LACC: www.LAChessClub.com; VCC: www.ValleyChessClub.com; Contact: Mick@LAChessClub.com; Saturday & Sundays: 10 am-10 pm (Novice & Interm. classes + 3 Tournaments). Sundays: 11 am - 7 pm (Novice & Interm. classes class + 2 Tournaments. FIDE & USCF tournaments. Details on our web site. Tuesdays: 7:30-9:30 pm (Advance lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025. (4 blocks W of 405, SW corner of Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor – above Javan Restaurant) Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons. Note our monthly major tournaments. Also, we have the best Weekly BLITZ tournament on Saturday nights at 6:30 pm!!

JAN. 5, 12, 19, 26, LACC Saturday G/60

4 separate events- 1 open section, 6SS, G/60 d5. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **EF:** \$30/ (\$20 LACC memb; No prizes 1/2 EF). **Reg.:** 11-12 noon. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm each day. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free on streets. **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com. Use Pirq app for a free tourney.

JAN. 5, 12, 19, 26, Saturday FIDE Blitz \$300 (BLZ)

4 separate events- 9SS, G/3’+2” FIDE & USCF rated (Blitz,14 games). 11513 Santa Monica Blvd. & Butler, LA 90025, 2nd fl. FIDE & USCF rated. **EF:** \$20 (extra \$10 non-LACC mbrs). No prizes, Siblings 1/2 EF. **Reg.:** 6-6:30 pm. **Rds.:** 6:30 and ASAP thereafter. **Prizes: \$\$\$300 Gtd.** \$100-50; U1800, U1600, U1400 \$50 cash & books. **GMs free. Parking:** Free on streets & BoA. **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com. Use Pirq app for a free tourney.

JAN. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27, Every Saturday & Sunday Chess 4 Juniors

8 separate events- 5SS, G/30 d0. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd. & Butler, LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blocks West of 405. **EF:** \$30 (\$20 LACC memb, No prize 1/2 EF, siblings 1/2, Free new LACC members). **Reg.:** 12-1 pm. **Rds.:** 1pm & asap; done by 4. FREE BUGHOUSE afterwards. **Prizes:** Trophies & medals; All players receive prizes! **Parking:** Free on streets & BoA. Free healthy refreshments. **Info:** (310) 795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com or Mick@LAChessClub.com.

JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27, LACC Sunday G/60

4 separate events- 1 open section, 6SS, G/60 d5. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **EF:** \$30/ (\$20 LACC memb; No prizes 1/2 EF). **Reg.:** 11-12 noon. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm each day. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA, streets, & basement. **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com. Use Pirq app for a free tourney.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 8, 15, 22, 29, Santa Monica Bay Chess Club

TUESDAY EVENINGS; (4-SS, G/1:55 d5) Cash prizes. St. Andrew’s Church, 11555 National Blvd., WLA, 90064. **EF:** \$10 - Club members, \$20 - non-members. **Reg.:** 7-7:10 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:10-11:00 p.m., USCF rated. Free parking. Free coffee. INFO: (310) 827-2789.

JAN. 14-16, 2019 Keres Memorial FIDE

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 10th annual Golden State Open (CA-N)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 19-21 OR 20-21, 5th Annual Dreaming King Open

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 16-18 OR 17-18, San Diego Open

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 23-24, 2019 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

See Nationals.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

COLORADO

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

CONNECTICUT

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)

See New York.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods

See Grand Prix.

APR. 20, Foxwoods Blitz (BLZ)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)

See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)

See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)

See Grand Prix.

DELAWARE

JAN. 12-13, Dewey Beach Open

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 51st annual Liberty Bell Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)

See Maryland.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 9-10, Delaware State Open Chess Championship

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)

See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)

See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)

See Grand Prix.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEB. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)

See Maryland.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

FLORIDA

Boca Raton Chess Club

Friday night tournament games, one game a week for 4 weeks. www.bocachess.com, 561-302-4377.

The Stormont Kings Chess Center in Miami, FL

We have a beautiful office with multiple rooms located in the Kendall/Falls/Pinecrest Area. We offer Private and Group Lessons, Homeschool Activities, Tournaments, Camps, Family Game Nights, Parents Night Out, Casual Chess Play TSK Rated and more! Chess Sets and equipment for sale. Complimentary Bottled Water, Ample Parking, Comfortable Waiting Room with legos, and other activities for siblings while waiting. Located at 8353 SW 124 St, Suite 201-A, Miami, FL 33156. Contact Chris Stormont, Phone: 786-303-2437, E-mail: chris@stormontkingschess.com, Web: www.StormontKingsChess.com

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Classes (All Ages)" Championships (GA)

See Georgia.

FEB. 1-3 OR 2-3, Central Florida 2019 Winter Open

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South

See Nationals.

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (AL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress (GA)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial (GA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

GEORGIA

JAN. 19, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholastics Championships

4-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. 3 sections. **Middle School** (Open to players in grades K thru 8). **Elementary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 6). **Primary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 3). **PRIZES (each class):** Trophies to Top Five Places; Highest Placed Unrated; Highest Placed Female. **All:** Participants who do not win a trophy will receive a Participation Medal. Sections may be combined at the discretion of the Chief TD with all prizes awarded as advertised. **Entry Fee:** \$29, if rec'd by 18-JAN; \$33 at site. **Schedule:** Registration ends 11:00am. Rounds: 11:30am, 1:00am, 2:30pm, 4:00pm. **Time Control:** G/30 d10. **½-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit one) — must request ½-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Bring Set, Board, and Clock** — None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Info:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 — 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 18-JAN — no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Classes (All Ages)" Championships

5-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. **\$3,500 b/70, \$2000 guaranteed.** 4 sections. **"SENIOR" Class:** Open to players born in 1969 or earlier. **"JUNIOR" Class:** Open to players born in 1970 thru 1984. **"SOPHOMORE" Class:** Open to players born in 1985 thru 1999. **"FRESHMAN" Class:** Open to players born in 2000 or later. **PRIZES (each class):** 1st - \$350 & "Class Championship" Plaque; 2nd — \$175; 1st Under 1800 and 1st Under 1500, each \$175. All Players Age 18 And Older Must Present Picture-ID With Birth

Year At Registration/Check-In. The "USCF Ratings Supplement" used to determine a player's "official published rating" for competition will be the same as the month in which the tournament begins. **Entry Fee:** \$55 if rec'd by 18-JAN; \$60 at site. Unrated: \$30. **Schedule:** Registration ends SAT 10:00am. Rounds: SAT 10:30am, 3:00pm, 7:30pm; SUN 10:00am, 3:30pm. **Time controls:** G/90 d30. **½-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit two) — must request 1/2-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Players Must Bring Sets, Boards, and Clocks** — None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Information:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 — 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 18-JAN — no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

JAN. 21, 18th Annual LexisNexis MLK Holiday Tournament

Whitefield Academy, 1 Whitefield Dr., Smyrna, GA 30126. **5-SS (Individual/Team Format), 9 sections:** Grades 9-12; Grades 6-12 U1000/Unrated; Grades 6-8; Grades K-5; Grades K-5 U600/Unrated; Grades K-3; Grades K-3 U400/Unrated; and K-1. Sections may be combined at the discretion of the Chief TD. No section changes accepted after 06:00pm, 20-JAN. **Prizes:** Individual - Trophies, 1st thru 5th places and all "Plus Scores (3 or more points)." Ribbons to all participants - except K-1 - who will receive "Participation Prizes." Team - Trophies, "Top Scoring Teams" in each section (number of team trophies awarded will depend on section size). A team consists of 2 or more players in the same section from the same school — Top 4 scores are counted. Stipends (Individual only): \$100 stipend to 1st place on tie-break in each section to attend Nationals in 2019 (must attend and email treasurer@georgiachess.org by 01-JUN with name, tournament attended, and payment address to receive stipend). If sections are combined, then the stipend is for the winner of the combined section only. **Entry Fee:** \$30; limited to 500 entries. **Schedule:** Online Registration ends Tue., 15-JAN, 12:00am (or until 500 player capacity is reached). If capacity is not reached, online Registration will continue through 16-JAN, 12:00am (Entry Fee will be increased to \$40). NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION. Note: Any cancellations must be received by 7:00am 21 JAN to receive a refund. **Rds.:** (all sections except K-1), 21-JAN, 10:00am; 11:30am; 01:00pm; 02:30pm; 04:00pm. Players should be seated at their boards by 9:40 with announcements beginning promptly at 9:45. **Rds.:** (Section K-1), 21-JAN, 10:30am; 11:45am; 01:15pm; Rd. 4, "ASAP after Rd. 3;" Rd. 5, "ASAP after Rd. 4;" Players should be seated at their boards by 10:15 with announcements beginning promptly at 10:20. **Time controls:** All sections G/25 d5. **1/2-Pt. Byes:** Available Rds. 1 thru 4 and **Zero-Pt. Bye** available Rd. 5 (limit two Byes total) — must request Byes before 06:00p.m. Sunday, 20-JAN (no changes afterwards). **Sets and boards supplied.** Bring your chess clock (if you have one, but not required). If one player brings a clock and requests its use, then both players must use the clock. **Accelerated pairings:** may be used at the discretion of the Chief TD. **Information:** mlk@georgiachess.org and at www.georgiachess.org/events.

FEB. 1-3 OR 2-3, Central Florida 2019 Winter Open (FL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)

See Nationals.

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (AL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

HAWAII

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

IDAHO

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

ILLINOIS

JAN. 18-20 OR 19-20, Chicago Chess Center 2nd Jane Addams Memorial \$5,300 Guaranteed! \$8,100 b/120 paid

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 26, Bradley Winter Open

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - North

See Nationals.

MAR. 15-17, 2019 National High School (K-12) Championship

See Nationals.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 12-14, 2019 All-Girls National Championships presented by the Kasparov Chess Foundation in association with the Renaissance Knights Chess Foundation & US Chess
See Nationals.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30, 2019 U.S. Senior Open
See Nationals.

JUNE 28-30, 2019 U.S. Junior Open
See Nationals.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

INDIANA

FEB. 9, 2019 Southern Indiana Open/Reserve (U1800)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)
See Grand Prix.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

IOWA

FEB. 2, 5th Annual Port of Burlington Reserve
The Loft of Burlington, 416 Jefferson St., Burlington, IA 52601. U1600 4 round Swiss, G/60 d5. **EF:** \$25, \$30 After Jan 28th or onsite. **Rounds:** 10AM, 12:30pm, 3:45pm Asap. **Prizes:** \$100 1st place, \$75 second, \$50 3rd based on 15 entries. (60% payout), Chess Book for U1400 1st and 2nd. Chess Book for best upset and Board Raffle Prizes! Free regular Scholastic membership if expired or new member for all sections.

FEB. 2, 5th Annual Port of Burlington RBO
The Loft of Burlington, 416 Jefferson St., Burlington, IA 52601. 5 round swiss, G/30 d5. **EF:** \$15, \$20 After Jan 28th or onsite. **5 Rounds:** Sat 10, 11, 1pm, rounds 4 and 5 ASAP. **Prizes:** Trophies 1-5th place U1000, U800, U600 1st and 2nd, U400 1st and 2nd, U200 1st and Unrated 1st and 2nd, Board Raffle Prizes.

FEB. 2-3, 5th Annual Port of Burlington Open FIDE and USCF Rated
See Grand Prix.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

KANSAS

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)
See Grand Prix.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

KENTUCKY

FEB. 23, Black History Month Chess Classic: 2nd Annual Battle of the Kings & Queens

1228 East Breckinridge St., Louisville, KY 40204. **Entry fee:** \$15.00 Registration time starts at 10 a.m. Ends at 10:45 a.m. This is a fundraising tournament for the Kuumba Academy chess program. Affordable concessions. Free parking. Cash prize raffles. **Conditions:** K/12 open rated. Everyone must be a United States Chess Federation member, G/30. No time delay. Quads, round robin, 3 rounds. First place winner receives a medal. Trophies available for the top 4 performing teams. www.thewestlouisvillechessclub.com for more information. Or contact urbanlouisvillechess@yahoo.com.

MAR. 2, The John Coltrane Spring Classic
Location: 500 East Caldwell, Louisville, KY 40204. **Registration:** 10:30 to 10:45 a.m. **Entry fee:** \$10. Cash prize tournament, rated, 3 in a section, round robin, 2 rounds, full point bye, G/30 d0. 1st place in each section wins \$20 based on 3 paid in full entries in a section. Others win Chess Dollars. **Sections:** under 500, under 800, under 1200, under 1600. Must be a United States Chess Federation member. Affordable concessions. www.thewestlouisvillechessclub.com for more information.com.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

LOUISIANA

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)
See Nationals.

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (AL)
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)
See Grand Prix.

MAINE

FEB. 23, 6th Queen City Tornado (NH)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)
See Grand Prix.

MAY 4, Downeast Open
See Grand Prix.

MAY 22, ChessMaine.net Championship
See Grand Prix.

MARYLAND

MARYLAND CHESS TOURNAMENTS

MD Chess runs scholastic tournaments 2 Saturdays per month from September through June & open tournaments 2 Saturdays or weekends per month throughout the year. Visit www.MDChess.org to find tournament announcements, tutors, coaches, & camps; register online for tournaments; & subscribe to scholastic and/or open e-newsletters. MD scholastic players who compete in the Varsity section (exclusively for players rated 1600+) of a MD-Sweet-16 Qualifier can qualify for the \$45,000 scholarship to UMBC awarded annually. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County's chess team is a perennial top-10 contender for the national championship.

JAN. 12-13, Dewey Beach Open (DE)
See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, Chesapeake Open
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, Baltimore Open
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute & Western High School, 1400 W. Cold Spring Ln., Baltimore, MD 21209. Open to all K-12 players from anywhere. **5 Sections. Championship:** 1500+, K-12, 4SS, G/45 d5, Rds.: 9:30-11:30-1:30-3:30. **1000-1499:** 1000-1499, K-12, 5SS, G/35 d5, Rds.: 9:30-11-12:30-2-3:30. **U1000 HS & MS:** under 1000 or unr, 6-12, 5SS, G/30 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:45-12-1:15-2:30. **500-999 K-5:** 500-999, K-5, 5SS, G/30 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:45-12-1:15-2:30. **U500 K-5:** under 500 or unr, K-5, 5SS, G/25 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:30-11:30-12:30-1:30. **Trophies** per section: top 25% of individuals; top 40% of teams. **EF:** \$30 through 02.12; \$45 through 02.14; \$60 by 8 AM, 02.16 (half-point bye possible in Rd. 1); \$80, 8-9 AM, 02.16 (on site; if space available; half-point bye likely in Rd. 1). Provided: sets, boards, scoresheets, & pencils. Bring chess clock. Food available for purchase. **Register:** www.mdchess.com. **Contact Email:** tournaments@mdchess.com.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 2-3, UMCB Open - Alvin S. Mintzes Chess Tournament
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 9-10, Delaware State Open Chess Championship (DE)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, World Open Daily 2 pm Blitz (BLZ) (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)
See Grand Prix.

MASSACHUSETTS

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Reggie Boone Memorial
5SS, G/100 d5. Wachusett CC, McKay Complex, Room C159, Fitchburg State University, 67 Rindge Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420. **EF:** \$20 annual club dues or \$1 per game. **Reg.:** 6:30-7 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:15 p.m. each Wed. **Byes:** 1-4, limit two. **Prizes:** chess books to 1st-2nd, top U1800, U1600, U1400. **Info:** George Mirijanian, 176 Oak Hill Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420, miriling2@aol.com, 978-345-5011. **Website:** www.wachusettchess.org. **WEB:** 1/2. Free parking, cafe facilities, skittles. W.

JAN. 19, Boylston Chess Foundation Polar Vortex
See Grand Prix.

JAN. 27, WN 2019 Winter Open
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 10, WN Winter 2019 RBO
No refreshments available onsite. Bring your own snacks. Map for dining provided. 5SS, G/30 d5. West Newbury Town Hall Annex, 381 Main St., West Newbury, MA 01985. Open to 1199 & under. Open to under 1200 or unrated. **EF:** \$20 by 3 February, \$25 on site. **Prizes:** Trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, U900, U600, U300 and top unrated. **Reg.:** 9:15-9:45. **Rds.:** 10-11:15-1:15-2:30-3:45. 1 1/2 point byes rounds 1-4, must request by round 3. **ENT:** Alex Relyea, 49 Technology Dr. #89, Bedford, NH 03110. **INFORMATION:** relyea@operamail.com. www.relyeachess.com.

FEB. 23, 6th Queen City Tornado (NH)
See Grand Prix.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 2-3, 94th Western Massachusetts/Connecticut Valley Chess Championship
The Alumni House - Amherst College, 75 Churchill St., Amherst, MA 01002. **In 2 Sections. Two-Day:** 5SS, G/90 d5, EF: \$30 on-site; \$25 if postmarked by 2/25/2019; **One-Day:** 5SS, 1-3 G/45 d5, 4 & 5 G/90 d5, EF: \$25 on-site. \$2 discount for WMCA members; \$20 if postmarked by 2/25/2019. Unr: FREE; USCF Membership required. 1st overall: revolving trophy and keeper; trophy to top X, A, B, C, D, E, UNR. Please bring set and clock. Limit of two 1/2 point byes; specify round(s) with entry. **ENT:** WMCA c/o Ed Kostreba, 45 Fairview St., Palmer, MA 01069. **INFO:** Ron Gist (413) 695-7689, RonGist@ComCast.net. W.

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)
See New York.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships
See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)
See Grand Prix.

MICHIGAN

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

MINNESOTA

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

MISSISSIPPI

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)

See Nationals.

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (AL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)

See Grand Prix.

MISSOURI

Knights of the Chess Table Chess Club

Edward Jones YMCA, St. Louis, MO - All skill levels welcome. Play casual chess or blitz chess. For club info, address and hours, go to <https://knightsofthechesstable.com>

Saint Louis Chess Club

The Saint Louis Chess Club holds tournaments 2 nights per week. Check out saintlouischessclub.org for more information.

Wednesday Monthly Marathon

The Kansas City Chess Club, 2 S. Water St., Liberty, MO 64068. 2 Games Per Week (8-10 Games Per Month) G/30 d5 7PM Free Parking! Free Coffee and Snacks! **EF:** \$5 per week. Flyer at: www.kansascitychessclub.com.

JAN. 16, Knights of the Chess Table Chess Club

Wednesday - Game 30 d0, 3 Rounds SS. **EF:** \$2.00. **Reg.:** 6:00, Rds.: 6:15, 7:15, 8:15. No Prize Fund. Edward Jones YMCA, 12521 Marine Ave., St. Louis, MO 63146. **For more info:** 314 966 4985 or <https://knightsofthechesstable.com>. No Smoking, Wheelchair Access, Refreshments Available, No Computers, Unrated and Beginner Players Welcome. If possible, players should bring set, board and clock. USCF Membership Required.

JAN. 19, The 2019 Kansas City Chess Club Championship

Liberty United Methodist Church, 1001 Sunset Ave., Liberty, MO 64068. \$1200 in Prizes! 4SS, G/60 d5. **EF:** \$27 at Reg4Chess.com. \$35 onsite. **Reg.:** 8:30AM. Rd. 1 9:30AM. USCF & KCCA Memb Req. **Info:** Ken at kcchess@gmail.com. See flyer at kansascitychessclub.com. Free Entry For ALL New and Unrated Players USCF Players!

JAN. 19, New Year's Fray

Format: Open to students enrolled in elementary, middle or high school in Fall 2018. 4 SS, G/30 d0. **Five sections:** K-12 Open, K-12 U1000, K-6 Open, K-6 U500, K-3 Open. **Rds.:** 11am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3pm. Locations vary every month, all the info and registration is on our website at: <https://saintlouischessclub.org/education/scholastic-tournaments>

JAN. 30, Knights of the Chess Table Chess Club

Wednesday - Game 30 d0, 3 Rounds SS. **EF:** \$2.00. **Reg.:** 6:00, Rds.: 6:15, 7:15, 8:15. No Prize Fund. Edward Jones YMCA, 12521 Marine Ave., St. Louis, MO 63146. **For more info:** 314 966 4985 or <https://knightsofthechesstable.com>. No Smoking, Wheelchair Access, Refreshments Available, No Computers, Unrated and Beginner Players Welcome. If possible, players should bring set, board and clock. USCF Membership Required.

FEB. 9, Chess Carnival

Format: Open to students enrolled in elementary, middle or high school in Fall 2018. 4 SS, G/30 d0. **Five sections:** K-12 Open, K-12 U1000, K-6 Open, K-6 U500, K-3 Open. **Rds.:** 11am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3pm. Locations vary every month, all the info and registration is on our website at: <https://saintlouischessclub.org/education/scholastic-tournaments>

FEB. 13, Knights of the Chess Table Chess Club

Wednesday - Game 30 d0, 3 Rounds SS. **EF:** \$2.00. **Reg.:** 6:00, Rds.: 6:15, 7:15, 8:15. No Prize Fund. Edward Jones YMCA, 12521 Marine Ave., St. Louis, MO 63146. **For more info:** 314 966 4985 or <https://knightsofthechesstable.com>. No Smoking, Wheelchair Access, Refreshments Available, No Computers, Unrated and Beginner Players Welcome. If possible, players should bring set, board and clock. USCF Membership Required.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 27, Knights of the Chess Table Chess Club

Wednesday Night Game 30 d0, 3 Rounds SS. **EF:** \$5.00. **Reg.:** 5:45, Rds: 6:15, 7:15, 8:15. Prize Fund b/10. 1st - \$20 2nd - \$10 - 3rd - \$5 Edward Jones YMCA, 12521 Marine Ave., St. Louis, MO 63146. **For more info:** 314 966 4985 or <https://knightsofthechesstable.com>. Players should bring clock. USCF Membership Required.

MAR. 9, Four States Winter Open

4-SS, G/60 d5. Hilton Garden Inn, 2644 E. 32nd St., Joplin, MO 64804. 2 Sections, **Open:** \$120-80, U1600 60, **U1400:** \$60-40. 4.0 Bonus: \$20. Sections may be combined for pairing purposes. **Prizes:** b/30 full-paid entries. **EF:** \$30 by 3/8, \$40 at door. Scholastic (rating only) \$15 by 3/8, \$25 at door. Email entry accepted for lower rate. MCA membership required, OSA. **Reg.:** 8-9. Rounds: 9:30-11:45-2:30-4:45. **Byes:** One 1/2 point bye if requested before round 2 **Ent:** martin.stahl@joplinchess.org with cash onsite, paypal.me/joplinchess or mailed to Joplin Chess Club, 2609 New Hampshire, Joplin, MO 64804. Checks payable to Martin Stahl. **Info:** joplinchess.org, martin.stahl@joplinchess.org, 417-483-1554.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open

See Grand Prix.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

MONTANA

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 26-27, January Thaw

Open. 5 SS, G/90 d5. **Marriott Helena Colonial Hotel**, 2301 Colonial Dr., Helena, MT 59601. Phone (406) 443-2100. **EF:** \$30, Jrs-\$15. USCF & MCA membership required, OSA. **Reg.:** 8:30 - 9:15. **Rds.:** 9:30, 1:30, 6:00 / 8:30AM, 12:30. **\$\$:** 1st-\$75, 2nd-\$50, biggest upset \$35 (nonprovisional). **Contact:** Murray Strong, 406-459-6684. Murstrong1958@gmail.com, www.montanachess.org.

NEBRASKA

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)

See Grand Prix.

NEVADA

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 10th annual Golden State Open (CA-N)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship

6-SS, G/60 d5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort, 3000 Paradise Rd., 89109. **In 4 Sections by age:** 14 & Under Open, 14 & Under Reserve (under 1000), 9 & Under Open, 9 & Under Reserve (under 800). **Trophies** to top 10 in each section plus class and team trophies. 1st Place in each section wins a **Computer** loaded with valuable Chess Software and hundreds of Videos, 2nd-4th win chess prizes valued at 250-150-100. Unrated players may not win 1st in Reserve sections. **EF:** \$89 by 5/31, \$99 by 6/20, \$120 later. Half point bye in any round (limit 2) if requested in advance. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **Rds.:** 10-1-3:30, 10-1-3:30. **Youth Blitz:** 6/22 6:30 p.m. (\$25 by 5/31 \$35 later). **HR:** \$69, \$92 Friday and Saturday (800) 732-7117 *Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 23; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.* **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925 or www.VegasChessFestival.com.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

FEB. 23, 6th Queen City Tornado

See Grand Prix.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)

See Grand Prix.

NEW JERSEY

JAN. 5, ICA Super Saturday Quads

354 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (Education building, 2nd floor). 3SS, G/45 d5. **Registration:** On site before 1:20 PM at the day of the tournament. **Entry Fee:** \$25 all sections. **Rounds:** 1:30 and ASAP. **Prize:** \$60 1st place (each quad). Call 201-797-0330 or email chessdirector@icanj.net for more information.

JAN. 12, ICA Super Saturday Quads

354 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (Education building, 2nd floor). 3SS, G/45 d5. **Registration:** On site before 1:20 PM at the day of the tournament. **Entry Fee:** \$25 all sections. **Rounds:** 1:30 and ASAP. **Prize:** \$60 1st place (each quad). Call 201-797-0330 or email chessdirector@icanj.net for more information.

JAN. 12-13, Dewey Beach Open (DE)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 51st annual Liberty Bell Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, Chesapeake Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 19, 100th Central Jersey Chess Tournament

New sections beginning at our 100th tournament! Princeton Academy, 1128 Great Rd., Princeton. 4 rated sections, each K-12, 4 rds, G/25 d5: **Open (1100+), U1100, U800, U500.** 2 unrated sections, 4 rds. **Intermediate (K-8), Beginners (K-2).** Trophies to 1st-3rd and top school/club team per section, medals to all! \$40 pre-reg online by 1/17, \$50 on-site 1:15-1:45. Rd. 1 at 2pm. newjerseychess@gmail.com, www.njchess.com

JAN. 19, ICA Super Saturday Quads

354 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (Education building, 2nd floor). 3SS, G/45 d5. **Registration:** On site before 1:20 PM at the day of the tournament. **Entry Fee:** \$25 all sections. **Rounds:** 1:30 and ASAP. **Prize:** \$60 1st place (each quad). Call 201-797-0330 or email chessdirector@icanj.net for more information.

JAN. 20, Westfield Winter Scholastic

New 12:15 start time! Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. K-12. **3 Sections:** Open, U1250, U750. Open: 3-SS. G/40 d5. Rounds:

12:15, 2:00, 3:45 p.m. U1250 & U750: 4-SS. G/25 d5. Rounds: 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00 p.m. **EF:** \$25, \$20 members. **Prizes:** Trophies to Top 5 in each section. Tiebreaks used. See USCF Rule 34E. **Register:** 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

JAN. 20, Westfield G/75

New event & time! 2-SS, accelerated. G/70 d5. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **EF:** \$5. **Prizes:** None. **Register:** 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. **Rounds:** 12:15, 3:00 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html. **Notes:** Participation limited to adults (any rating) & 1750+.

JAN. 26, Hamilton Chess Club Quads

3RR, 40/80 15/30 15/30 d0. Full K. McManimon Hall, 320 Scully Ave., Hamilton Twp., NJ 08610. Quads open to all. **EF:** \$10. **Prizes:** \$25 per Quad. **Reg.:** 9-10:30am. **Rds.:** 10:30am-1:30pm-4:30pm. OSA. More information: hamiltonchessclub.com or 609-758-2326 leave message or text 609-351-2437. W.

JAN. 26, ICA Super Saturday Quads

354 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (Education building, 2nd floor). 3SS, G/45 d5. **Registration:** On site before 1:20 PM at the day of the tournament. **Entry Fee:** \$25 all sections. **Rounds:** 1:30 and ASAP. **Prize:** \$60 1st place (each quad). Call 201-797-0330 or email chessdirector@icanj.net for more information.

JAN. 27, Westfield G/50 Quads

New 12:15 start time! 3-RR. G/45 d5. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **EF:** \$25, \$20 members. **Prizes:** \$60 to first in each section. **Register:** 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. **Rounds:** 12:15, 2:10, 4:05 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

JAN. 27, Dr. David Ostfeld Memorial ICA Championship in 5 Sections

4SS. Bergen Academy, 200 Hackensack Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601. All players with 2.5 points or more will receive a trophy! USCF Memb Req'd For Sections 3, 4 AND 5. For info, call 201-797-0330, email chessdirector@icanj.net or visit icanj.net. ADV EF (pmk by Jan 21st) \$35 At Site \$40 Reg ends 1/2 hr before 1st rd. Late entrants will receive a 1/2 pt bye for rd. 1. **In 5 Sections: Section 1 Junior Novice (not USCF rated):** Open to unr players K thru 2nd grade. Rds.: First Round 10:15 AM then ASAP. **Section 2 Novice (not USCF rated):** Open to unr players K thru 4th grade. Rds.: First Round 10:00 AM then ASAP. **Section 3 G/45 d5 U800:** Open to players rated below 800 and unrated players K thru 12th grade. Rds.: 9:45 AM, 11:30, 1:15, 3:00 PM. **Section 4 G/45 d5 U1200:** Open to players rated below 1200 and unrated players K thru 12th grade. Rds.: 9:45 AM, 11:30, 1:15, 3:00 PM. **Section 5 G/60 d5 U1400:** Open to All Ages rated below 1400 or unrated. Rds.: 9:30 AM, 11:45, 2:00, 4:30 PM. **Enter online at:** https://ica.jumbula.com/#/ica_tournaments or mail checks to Diana Tulman, 28 Canterbury Ln., New Milford, NJ 07646. Make checks payable to International Chess Academy. W.

JAN. 27, Dr. David Ostfeld Memorial ICA U1600 Championship

4SS, G/60 d5. Bergen Academy, 200 Hackensack Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601. Open to all ages with rating below 1600. **Prize Fund** (\$\$ b/25) 1st - 3rd \$200, \$150, \$100, TU1400 \$50, TU1200 \$50, Call 201-797-0330, email chessdirector@icanj.net or visit icanj.net for more info. ADV EF (pmk by Jan 21st) \$40. At Site \$45 Reg ends 1/2 hr before 1st rd. Late entrants will receive a 1/2 pt bye for rd. 1. **Rds.:** 9:30 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:00 PM, 4:30 PM. **Enter online at:** https://ica.jumbula.com/#/ica_tournaments or mail to Diana Tulman, 28 Canterbury Lane, New Milford, NJ 07646. Make checks payable to International Chess Academy. W.

JAN. 27, Dr. David Ostfeld Memorial ICA Open Championship

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 2, Princeton Day School

650 The Great Road. Plaques to top 3 school teams under 1000, top 8 in each section under 1000, and to top 3 in each section over 1000. Medals to all players. **MORNING SECTIONS:** 3 rds. G/55 d5, Sections for OVER 1000 rated players begin at **10:15** and must preregister: NEAR MASTERS (players K-12 OVER 1400), FUTURE MASTERS (players K-12 1200- 1400), CLOSED (K-12 1000-1200). **AFTERNOON SECTIONS:** 4 rds. G/25 d5, Beginning at **12 noon** (round times will be accelerated if possible): OPEN (Players K-12 U-1000), RESERVE (K-12 U-800), NOVICE II (K-8 U-600), NOVICE I (unrated K-8), K-1 (unrated), NO SCORE K-1 (novice). Pre-registration online, \$35 pay at the door. Info and online registration at <https://www.pds.org/school-life/chess-tournaments> On-site 11-12 noon \$45. Inquiries to Bonnie Waitzkin at chessteach2@gmail.com.

FEB. 2, ICA Super Saturday Quads

354 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (Education building, 2nd floor). 3SS, G/45 d5. **Registration:** On site before 1:20 PM at the day of the tournament. **Entry Fee:** \$25 all sections. **Rounds:** 1:30 and ASAP. **Prize:** \$60 1st place (each quad). Call 201-797-0330 or email chessdirector@icanj.net for more information.

FEB. 3, Westfield Super Sunday Quads

Special 10:35 a.m. start time! 3-RR. G/40 d5. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **EF:** \$25, \$20 members. **Prizes:** \$60 to first in each section. **Register:** 10:00-10:30 a.m. **Rounds:** 10:35 a.m., 12:20, 2:05 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, Baltimore Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 10, Thomas Elberling Memorial Quads

New 12:15 start time! 3-RR. G/45 d5. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **EF:** \$30, \$20 members. **Prizes:** \$60 to first in each section. **Register:** 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. **Rounds:** 12:15, 2:10, 4:05 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

FEB. 16-18, World Amateur Team & 2019 U.S. Team East Championship

See Nationals.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)

See Grand Prix.

A State Championship Event!

FEB. 24, New Jersey State Elementary Championship
5SS, G/30 d5. Brookdale College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738. Student Life Center, use Parking Lot #7 or #6; 5 minutes from Garden State Parkway exit 109. 2 Sections: Elementary (K-6) & Primary (K-3). **All:** Trophies to top 15 individuals, top 5 teams. Elementary & Primary: Top 5 in each grade. **Rds.:** 10 am then ASAP. Top 4 scores constitute the team score for Elementary; top 3 for Primary. **EF:** \$35 before 2/17, \$50 at site. USCF memb. req'd. **Reg.:** 8-9:00am After 9:00am 1/2 point bye for round 1. **Info:** 732 259-3881, **Ent:** Hal Sprechman, 66 Cromwell Ln., Jackson, NJ 08527 or online by Feb 23 at www.NJSCF.org. Entries must include name, grade, school, section, date of birth, USCF ID and expiration date, mailing address, email address, phone number and entry fee. Checks made out to NJSCF.

A State Championship Event!

FEB. 24, New Jersey Junior High School Championship
5SS, G/30 d5. Brookdale College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738. Student Life Center, use Parking Lot #7 or #6; 5 minutes from Garden State Parkway exit 109. Section: JHS (K-9). **All:** Trophies to top 15 individuals, top 5 teams. **Rds.:** 10am then ASAP. Top 4 scores constitute team score. **EF:** \$35 before 2/17, \$50 at site. USCF memb. req'd. **Reg.:** 8-9:00 am. After 9:00 am, half-point bye for round one. **INFO:** 732-259 3881 halsprechman@gmail.com. **ENT:** Hal Sprechman, 66 Cromwell Ln., Jackson, NJ 08527 or online by Feb 23 at www.NJSCF.org. Entries must include name, grade, school, date of birth, USCF ID #, & expiration date, mailing address, phone number & entry fee. Checks made out to NJSCF.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

MAR. 2-3, New Jersey High School Championship
5SS, G/60 d10. Union County Vocational - Technical High School, 1776 Raritan Rd., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. **VARSITY (9-12):** 5 player team with one alternate allowed, coaches set order by strength, order must not be changed. Team average based on 5 highest ratings. Trophies to: top 10 Teams, top three players on boards 1-5. **EF:** \$150/team before 2/27/19. \$165 on site. **JUNIOR VARSITY (9-12):** 4 player team with one alternate allowed. Team average based on 4 highest ratings. Trophies to: top 10 teams, top 3 players boards 1-4. **EF:** \$120/team before 2/27/19, \$130 on site. **BOOSTER: (K-12):** Top 4 individual players from each school constitute a team. Trophies to: top 10 players. Top 3 schools. **EF:** \$30 before 2/27/19, \$35 on site. **All ABOVE SECTIONS** USCF memb. required. **RDS.:** Sat 10, 12:45, 3:15; Sun 10, 12:45. **REG.:** on site 8-9:30am after 9:30 – 1/2 point bye for round 1. Please bring clocks and sets. **REG.:** JIM MULLANAPHY, 98 Baird Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08535. Entrees must include: name, grade, school, USCF ID# and expiration date for players; coaches need to supply: mailing address, email address, phone #. Checks made out to: NJSCF. **SIDE EVENT: MAR 3, SUNDAY, Boy Scout/Girl Scout/Non-Rated Section (K-12):** 5SS, G/15 d5. USCF Membership **Not required for this section only!** **EF:** \$20, registration 9:00 to 9:45. First Round 10am, other rounds ASAP. Limited number of Clocks and Sets

available, if you have equipment please bring it. **REG.:** Same as above. Entries must include: name, age, address, phone # and Troop/Pack affiliation if any. **Online entrees accepted at: WWW.NJSCF.org** until 10pm, 2/28/19. **QUESTIONS??** Contact: Jmull@aol.com, 732-610-1357.

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)
See New York.

MAR. 9-10, Delaware State Open Chess Championship (DE)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, World Open Daily 2 pm Blitz (BLZ) (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)
See Grand Prix.

NEW MEXICO

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)
See Nevada.

NEW YORK

OCT. 21, NOV. 18, DEC. 9, JAN. 27, MAR. 3, MAY 5, 6th Annual Magnus High School and Junior High Chess League! Columbia Grammar and Prep. High School Cafeteria, 36 W. 93rd St. (bet. Central Park West & Columbus Ave., near 96th St. subways), NYC. 12-SS, G/60 d10, open to grades 7-12 born after 5/5/99. 3 sections: **1. Premier (over 1799 and special invitees), **2. Under 1800**, **3. Under 1200**. Plaques to top 3 each section. May be limited to 60 players each date. **Individual free entry prizes:** free entry to 2 specified Continental Chess tmnts. thru 12/31/19 to 1st each section. **Team prizes:** free entry to 1 CCA tmt. thru 12/31/19 to the 4-top-scoring players from **same school** across all 3 sections, plaques to top 3 overall team scores, limit 2 teams per school. **Mixed Doubles** (2-player male/female team, avg. rating U2200, may be in different sections and from different schools, must sign-up by 1/27) **Bonus Prize:** free entry to 1 CCA tmt. thru 12/31/19 to 1st **Mixed Doubles team**, chess sets to top 3 overall Mixed Doubles. Free entries courtesy of Continental Chess and are valid for CCA tmnts. with 100% guaranteed prizes; see www.magnusleague.org, www.chesscenter.cc or www.chesstour.com for details and restrictions. **Rds.:** 10 am-12:45 pm (earlier if feasible) each date. **Ent:** www.magnusleague.org. **All:** Each date's games submitted for rating prior to next date's games. Players must re-confirm before each date; official USCF rating list in effect on each date used for that date (unofficial ratings usually used if otherwise unrated or if requesting to play in Premier). Unr. may enter section 2 or 3 (or Premier by TD permission). Limit 6 byes (2 byes max. rds. 9-12), commit by Jan. 27 (by May 3 for players with minus scores). Teammate pairings avoided but possible. Ties for free entries decided by tiebreak except playoff May 5 between top 2 on tiebreak (may be fast game). See www.magnusleague.org for rules and special situations. Special Bonus Points and/or prizes *may* be awarded each date! Bring clocks! **Info:** director@magnusleague.org, chesscentr@gmail.com, **online entry** thru 6 pm the day before each date at: www.magnusleague.org. Reg. on-site by 9:30 am. School purchase orders: **Chess Center of NY, PO Box 4615, New Windsor, NY 12553. W.****

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
JAN. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 10th Long Island CC Winter Open
5SS, G/90 d5. United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554. **Open to all. \$(b/20 pd. ent.):** \$110-90. Top U-

ACTIVITY MEANS MEMBERS

FREE 8-LINE TOURNAMENT LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS (TLA's)!

TLA Categories Added

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS SPRING! Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of *Chess Life*, for any tournament between April and June 2019, if no TLA for such an event appeared in 2018, and the TLA is e-mailed by the appropriate deadline. The 8 free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES QUALIFY FOR FREE TLAS! Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines for events in the following categories, if submitted by e-mail. The free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs:

SENIOR For age 50 or above, or a higher minimum age.

UNRATEDS FREE Any tournament that offers free entry to unrated players. If your prizes are based on entries, say "paid entries."

US CHESS BOOSTER TOURNAMENT A tournament that offers at least two US Chess membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL A tournament playing only on one or more weekday evenings.

RBO Open to Under 1200/ Unr or Under 1000/ Unr. Tournament name must include "Rated Beginners Open" or "RBO."

BLITZ Time control of Game/5. TLAs such as "USCF-rated Blitz every Friday 7 pm" are accepted.

COLLEGIATE A tournament limited to college students.

JUNIOR For age 20/below (age 20 must be eligible).

NON-SCHOLASTIC WITH SCHOLASTIC. A tournament for all ages held concurrent (same location) with a scholastic tournament that in its previous year drew at least 50 players. We encourage organizers of scholastics to hold open or collegiate events on the side.

SPECIAL RATES FOR CLUB ADS. Up to 5 lines \$180 per year, \$100 for 6 months for unchanged club ads in the TLA section. Announce meeting dates & times, activities, contact info, etc.

US CHESS DISCUSSION GROUPS. See www.uschess.org/forums for four groups: Tournament Organization, Chess Club Organization, Tournament Direction, US Chess Issues.



ONE YEAR Membership with Chess Life

Premium Adult Membership is \$49, which includes a print copy of *Chess Life* every month. Regular Adult Memberships are \$40 and allow online-only access to *Chess Life*. (Note to affiliates: If you sell one of these Regular or Premium memberships, you may submit it online through the TD/Affiliate area or mail to US Chess for \$3 less than sales price.)



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2000, U-1500/unr. \$60 ea. **EF:** \$35. Non-LICC members +\$10. UNRATED FREE! **Reg.:** 6:45 - 7:15 PM, no adv. ent., **Rds.:** 7:30 PM ea. Thursday. 2 byes 1-5. **Info:** www.lichessclub.com.

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 5 OR 6 OR 5-6, Kasparov Chess Foundation presents the 53rd Annual Greater NY Scholastic Championships - Since 1966, USCF's Longest-Running Scholastic!

Beautiful hotel site: NY Marriott Hotel At Brooklyn Bridge, 333 Adams Street (near Borough Hall), Brooklyn, NY. **Nearby subway stations:** Jay Street Metrotech (A, C, F & R trains), Borough Hall (2, 3, 4 & 5 trains). **Hotel policy prohibits food not purchased from hotel in meeting areas!** Online entries at www.gnyscc.com: **1-Day Sections:** \$65 thru 12/21/18, \$75 12/22-28, \$85 12/29/18-1/3/19; **Championship Sections**, \$75 thru 12/21/18, \$85 12/22-12/28, \$95 12/29/18-1/3/19. **Help available for group entries of 5/more: webmaster@gnyscc.com;** online fees are only valid using our website. **For mail entries see www.gnyscc.com or www.chesscenter.cc. On-site entry fee:** \$110 the day before your game (starting 8 pm 1/4), \$120 on day of event until 1 hour before game. **May be limited to 1,500 players** (also limited to smaller number of players on each day)! Entries may be subject to waiting list. **In 14 sections!** Each section has its own age, grade and rating requirements (Championship sections open to all who are under grade and age limits; unrated allowed all sections). The **5 Championship sections** are each **2 days** (High School Championship, Junior High Championship, Elementary Championship, Primary Championship and K1 Championship): 6-SS, G/60 d10. **Rounds:** 10 am-1-4 pm Sat; **9 am-12-2:45 pm Sun.** Awards ceremonies about 5:30 pm Sun. The **9 non-Championship sections** are each 1-day, 5-SS, G/30 d5. **Playing on Saturday are:** High School Under 1900, High School Under 1200, Elementary Under 1500, Elementary Under 1100, Elementary Under 700: 10 am-12-1:30-3-4:30 pm, Awards about 6 pm. **Playing on Sunday with earlier starting times are:** Junior High Under 1300, Primary Under 1000, Primary Under 600 and K1 Under 400: **9-11 am-12:30-2-3:30 pm Sun.** Awards about 5 pm. **Both K-1 sections** open to grade 1/below born after 1/6/11. **All 3 Primary sections** open to grades 3/below born after 1/6/09. **All 4 Elementary sections** open to grades 6/below born after 1/6/06. **Both Junior High sections** open to grades 9/below born after 1/6/03. **All 3 High School sections** open to grades 12/below born after 1/6/99. **Trophies** to top 15 in each Championship and all Elementary, Primary and K1 sections; top 10 in other sections, top 3 U1500 in High School U1900, Top 3 U900/Unr in High School U1200 and Junior High U1300; Top 3 U1300 in Elementary U1500; top 3 U900 in Elementary U1100; top 3 U800 in Primary U1000; top 3 Unr. in Elementary U700, Primary U600 and K1 U400. **Trophies also** to top 6 teams each section (top 4 scores from same school = team, all on team must attend same school: no combined teams, even if one school “feeds” another). **Grade plaques:** top 3 Kindergartners in each K1 section, top 3 scorers below 7th Grade in Junior High U1300, Top 3 below 9th grade in High School U1200 (you can win both plaque + trophy). All players scoring 4 or more (5 or more in Championship) who *don't* win a trophy receive a medal! Speed playoff for 5-0 or 6-0. **Individual free entry prizes** (each *Championship* section): **Free entry to specified** Continental Chess tournaments thru 12/31/19 to 1st, thru 9/30 to 2nd, thru 8/20 to 3rd, thru 6/20 to 4th. **Individual free entry prizes** (each *non-Championship* section): Free entry to specified Continental Chess tmnts. thru 11/15/19 to 1st, thru 8/20 to 2nd, thru 6/20 to 3rd, thru 4/25 to 4th. **Team free entry prizes:** free entry to specified CCA tmnts. thru 8/20/19 to 1st team, thru 6/20 to 2nd team each section! Free entries courtesy of Kasparov Chess Foundation and are valid for Continental Chess tmnts. with 100% unconditionally guaranteed prize funds. Free entries do not include NYS Scholastics in Saratoga. See www.chesscenter.cc or www.gnyscc.com or www.chesstour.com for complete details and restrictions. **High School Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes** (best male/female 2-player “team” combined score among all 3 High School sections after 5 rounds): chess sets to 1st 5 **Mixed Doubles teams;** free entry to specified CCA tmnts. thru 8/20/19 to 1st team, thru 6/20 to 2nd, thru 4/15 to 3rd. Team average must be U2200; Mixed Doubles teammates may play in different sections and may attend different schools; teams must register on-site (no extra charge!) before rd. 3; teammate pairings avoided but possible. **All:** January 2019 official ratings used, except unofficial ratings at uschess.org usually used *if otherwise* unrated. TD reserves right to assign estimated ratings to players with non-USCF ratings or unrateds. All substitutions from advance entry list charged late fee. Section switches subject to \$10 extra charge per player thru 12/28, \$20 extra later. \$15 service charge for each player refund. TD reserves right to reassign sections for advance entries with incorrect or unclear registrations. Limit 2 byes, commit before rd. 3. **Important: Code Of Conduct at www.gnyscc.com and www.chesscenter.cc applies to players, parents, coaches and spectators.** HR \$174, call 877-303-0104 or 718-246-7000 by 12/17 (rooms may sell out early), mention chess. Help with entries, parking, etc: director@gnyscc.com or **347-201-2269** (leave message but email is better; on Jan 5-6 also call **718-246-7000**). **Team rooms: teamrooms@gnyscc.com.** Sets provided by Little House of Chess— **bring clocks!** W. **Info: www.gnyscc.com.** School purchase orders: Chess Center of NY, PO Box 4615, New Windsor, NY 12553.

JAN. 15, Marshall Masters

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 17, Marshall Thursday Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 18, Marshall 3rd Friday Quads - NEW

3-RR, G/25 d5. Registration ends at 6:30pm sharp. \$50 prize to each winner. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30pm. No byes allowed; \$25

Forfeit fee charged for dropping out before the completion of the tournament. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 18-20, Marshall Monthly U2400

5-SS, G/90 +30. Open to players rated below 2400 USCF. **\$1,000 GTD:** \$500-200; U2100: \$150; U1800: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 51st annual Liberty Bell Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, Chesapeake Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 19, Marshall G/50 (U1700)

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1500: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 19-21 OR 20-21, 1st Manhattan Classical Chess Championship

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 20, Marshall Rated Beginner

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 21, MLK Day Action!

6-SS, G/25 d5. (\$525 b/25): \$200-100; U2300, U2000, U1700: \$75. **EF:** \$30; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 11am-12:15-1:30-3:00-4:15-5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 24, Marshall Thursday Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 25, Marshall \$500 FIDE Blitz (BLZ)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 25-27, Marshall Senior Classic

5-SS, G/90 +30. Open to players age 50+; 40 player max. **\$1,500 GTD:** \$500-250; U2200: \$250; U2000: \$250; Top scoring player age 65+: \$250. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 26, Marshall G/50 Open

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2100: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 26-27, 10th Annual Boome County Chess Championship - Francis Cordisco Memorial

6 Round Swiss, G/75 d5. \$500 Prize Money b/20 **Two sections: Open Section:** \$150-\$75-\$50 trophies 1st–3rd; **Reserve Section:** \$125-\$60-\$40 (under 1700) trophies 1st–3rd. TIEBREAKS 10 MINUTE BLITZ GAMES. US Chess Federation Membership required. **Entry fee:** Open- \$45 Reserve- \$40 (cash only). Non Broome County residents welcome. **Schedule: Registration on site 9:00-9:45AM Sat. 1/26/2019 NOT 1/27/2019. Rounds:** 10AM – 1PM – 4PM both days. **Entry:**Cordisco's Corner Store, 308 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13901. 1st place trophy Broome residents only.

JAN. 27, Marshall G/50 Open

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2100: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

JAN. 28, FEB. 4, 11, 30th Nassau G/60 Championship

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 31, Marshall Thursday Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 31, FEB. 7, 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, Marshall Thursday Open

6-SS, G/90 +30. (\$600 b/25): \$250-150-75; U1900: \$125. **EF:** \$40; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7pm each Thurs. Max two byes; request by Rd. 4. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 1-3, Marshall PREMIER

5-SS, G/90 +30.Two Sections: **FIDE:** FIDE Rated. Only open to players with a current published rating 2000+ (USCF or FIDE); NO exceptions. Limited to 34 players. **\$1,750 GTD:** \$1,000-500. U2300: \$250. **EF:** \$100; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$50 Mbr + service fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) First 5 GMs Free. **U2000:** Limited to 40 players. **(\$1,000 b/40):** \$500-200; U1750: \$150, U1500: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, Queens CC February Open

4-SS, Game/90 d5. All Saints Lutheran Church, 164-02 Goethals Ave., Jamaica, NY 11432. **EF:** \$35, QCC \$25. **\$250 GTD** — \$150, \$100 — Other Prizes Per Entries. — Up to Two 1/2 pt. Byes Permitted - Request Prior to Round 3. **REG.:** 7:15PM- 7:40PM. **RDS.:** 7:45PM each Friday. Mail advance entries by 1/21/2019. **ENT:** Joseph J. Felber; 76 Union Avenue; Apt. 1-W, Amityville, NY 11701- 3033 — Tel. (516) 214-5232. <https://www.paypal.me/queenschessclub>

FEB. 2, TRM133

at Wood Rd ES, 300 Wood Rd., Ballston Spa 12020. **Free.** Pre-register early www.chesstrm.org (required) 4/SS, G/30 d5. Rd. 1 at 10:00.

FEB. 2, 9, 16, 23, Rochester Chess Center Saturday Tournaments!

3-SS, G/60 d5. Rochester CC, 221 Norris Dr., Rochester, NY 14610. 585-442-2430. Prizes based on entries. **EF:** \$15, RCC members \$13. \$2 less for HS and Pre-HS. **Reg.:** 1-1:45 pm. **Rds.:** 2-4-6. One bye available, request at entry. www.nychess.org. **Also,** Youth tournament, G/30 d5, every Saturday morning 10am-1pm, trophies and prizes. EF: \$5.

FEB. 3, Marshall Rated Beginner

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 3, “Act First”

at Roberto Clemente State Park, 301 W. Tremont Ave., Bronx 10453. **Free.** Pre-register early www.chesstrm.org/NYC/ (required) 4/SS, G/30 d5. Check-in by 9:30 to play round 1.

FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, Community Chess Club of Rochester Wed Night Chess!

Note: 1 game rated per night, G/80 d5. Rochester Chess Center, 221 Norris Dr., Rochester, NY 14610. 585-442-2430. **EF:** \$5, CCCR members \$3. **Reg.:** 6:30-7:20 pm. **Rd.:** 7:30pm. www.rochesterchessclub.org.

FEB. 7, Marshall Guaranteed Action!

4-SS, G/25 d5. **\$350 GTD:** \$125-75; U2200, U1900: \$75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 8, Marshall Friday Night Blitz (BLZ)

9-SS, G/3 +2. USCF regular rating used for pairings & prizes. (\$500 b/35): \$200-100; U2400/unr, U2200, U2000, U1800: \$50. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** Begin at 7pm and continue ASAP. Max three byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

51st annual LIBERTY BELL OPEN

7 rounds, Jan 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, 2019

Martin Luther King weekend, Philadelphia Sonesta Hotel

\$20,000 PROJECTED PRIZES

Projected prizes have been RAISED every year since 2006!

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, Baltimore Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 9, Marshall U1900 Morning Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1700: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 9, Marshall G/50 Open

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2100: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 10, Marshall Rated Beginner (3 Rounds)

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 10, Marshall G/50 (Open & U1600)

4-SS, G/45 d5. Two Sections: **Open:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2000: \$75. **U1600:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1400: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, Marshall Weekly Wednesday

6-SS, G/90 +30. Two Sections: **U2000:** (\$600 b/25) \$250-150-100; U1700: \$100. **U1400:** (\$600 b/25) \$250-150-100; U1100: \$100. **EF:** \$40; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 7pm each Wed. Max two byes; request by Rd. 4. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 14, Marshall Thursday Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 15, Marshall 3rd Friday Quads - NEW

3-RR, G/25 d5. Registration ends at 6:30pm sharp. \$50 prize to each winner. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30pm. No byes allowed; \$25 Forfeit fee charged for dropping out before the completion of the tournament. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 15-17, Marshall Monthly U2400

5-SS, G/90 +30. Open to players rated below 2400 USCF. **\$1,000 GTD:** \$500-200; U2100: \$150; U1800: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Reg-ister Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 15-17, Marshall Monthly U2400

5-SS, G/90 +30. Open to players rated below 2400 USCF. **\$1,000 GTD:** \$500-200; U2100: \$150; U1800: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Reg-ister Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 16, Marshall G/50 (U1700)

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1500: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 16, Marshall G/50 (U1700)

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1500: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 17, Marshall Rated Beginner

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 17, Marshall Rated Beginner

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 17, Sunday Quick Chess in Middlebury (QC) (VT)

See Vermont.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 18, 25, MAR. 4, 11, 18, 25, Marshall FIDE Monday/U1800

6-SS, G/90 +30. Two Sections: **Open:** Open to all players 1600+. FIDE Rated. (\$600 b/25) \$200-150-100; U2000: \$100-50. **U1800:** (\$600 b/25) \$200-150-100; U1500: \$100-50. **EF:** \$40; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7pm each Mon. Max two byes; request by Rd. 4. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 18, 25, MAR. 4, 11, 18, 25, Marshall FIDE Monday/U1800

6-SS, G/90 +30. Two Sections: **Open:** Open to all players 1600+. FIDE Rated. (\$600 b/25) \$200-150-100; U2000: \$100-50. **U1800:** (\$600 b/25)

\$200-150-100; U1500: \$100-50. **EF:** \$40; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7pm each Mon. Max two byes; request by Rd. 4. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 19, Marshall Masters

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 21, Marshall Thursday Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 22, Marshall \$500 FIDE Blitz (BLZ)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 23, Marshall G/50 (Open & U1800)

4-SS, G/45 d5. Two Sections: **Open:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2200: \$75. **U1800:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1600: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 24, Marshall Rated Beginner

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

FEB. 24, Marshall G/50 (Open & U1500)

4-SS, G/45 d5. Two Sections: **Open:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1900: \$75. **U1500:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1300: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 28, MARCH 1-4, Marshall FIDE Norm Round Robins!

9-RR, G/90 +30. FIDE Rated. **Three Sections: 1) GM Norm & 2) IM/WGM Norm:** FIDE ratings used for pairings and prizes. FIDE norms possible. Registration **by invitation only; to request a spot please email td@marshallchessclub.org.** **Prizes: \$1,500 GTD:** \$1,000-500. **EF:** \$550. (MCC Membership required.) Conditions available for foreign GM & IM players. **3) Qualifier:** FIDE ratings used for pairings and prizes. A 2000+ FIDE rating is required to register (no exceptions will be made). **Prizes: 1st Place:** \$500 and eligible for paid entry into next IM Norm RR. **2nd Place:** Eligible for paid entry into the next IM Norm RR. **EF: \$175.** (MCC Membership required.) **Schedule (for all sections): Thurs 2/28: 12 & 6pm, Fri 3/1: 12 & 6pm, Sat 3/2: 12 & 6pm, Sun 3/3: 12 & 6pm, Mon 3/4: 12pm. No byes available:** players who fail to complete all 9 rounds will be barred from future MCC round robins *and* be subject to a \$250 fine before participating in another MCC event. **Website:** www.marshallchessclub.org/.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 1-3, Marshall U2200 Premier

5-SS, G/90 +30. Limited to 40 players. (\$1,000 b/40): \$500-200; U1900: \$150, U1600: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri. 7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 7, Marshall Guaranteed Action!

4-SS, G/25 d5. **\$350 GTD:** \$125-75; U2200, U1900: \$75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 8, Marshall Friday Night Blitz (BLZ)

9-SS, G/3 +2. USCF Blitz ratings (when possible) used for pairings & prizes. (\$500 b/35): \$200-100; U2400/unr, U2200, U2000, U1800: \$50. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** Begin at 7pm and continue ASAP. Max three byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 8, Marshall Friday Quads

3-RR, G/25 d5. Registration ends at 6:30pm sharp. \$50 prize to each winner. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30pm. No byes allowed; \$25 Forfeit fee charged for dropping out before the completion of the tournament. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 9, Marshall U1900 Morning Action

4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1700: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 9, Marshall G/50 Open

4-SS, G/45 d5. (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2100: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome)

6SS, G/60 d10, open to grades K-12; top NYS player & team each section are NY champions. In 14 sections. **High School Sections** at Courtyard by Marriott, 11 Excelsior Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (2/5 mile from Saratoga Hilton). **Other 11 sections** at Saratoga Hilton and adjacent Saratoga City Center (connected by indoor walkway), 534 Broadway (I-87 Exit 13-N, 4 miles north on US 9), Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Sections at Hilton/City Center are limited to a total of 1100 players, sections at Marriott 300 players. **Team prizes** based on top 4 scores from same school; no combined school teams allowed even if one school “feeds” another. Teams of 2 or 3 allowed, but are at a disadvantage. **Online entry fee at chess-action.com, all sections:** \$69 by 2/14, \$79 2/15-3/1, \$90 3/2 to 3/8. **EF at site**, all sections \$100. **HS Championship** (all K-12 born after 9/1/99): EF \$75.30 mailed by 2/14. Top NYS grade 9-12 qualifies for Denker Tournament of HS Champions. **K-12 Under 1800/Unr:** EF \$75.20 mailed by 2/14. **K-12 Under 1200/Unr:** EF \$75.10 mailed by 2/14. **JHS Championship (all K-9):** EF \$75 mailed by 2/14. Top NYS grade K-8 born after 9/1/03 qualifies for Barber tournament of K-8 Champions. **K-8 Under 1600/Unr:** EF \$74.90 mailed by 2/14. **K-8 Under 900/Unr:** EF \$74.80 mailed by 2/14. **Elementary Championship** (all K-6): EF \$74.70 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 1400/Unr:** EF \$74.60 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 1000/Unr:** EF \$74.50 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 600/Unr:** EF \$74.40 mailed by 2/14. **Primary Championship** (all K-3): EF \$74 mailed by 2/14. **K-3 Under 800/Unr:** EF: \$73.90 mailed by 2/14. **K-1 Championship** (all K-1): EF \$73.80 mailed by 2/14. **K-1 Under 400/Unr:** EF \$73.70 mailed by 2/14. **Postmarked 2/15-26:** All EF \$10 more. Do not mail entry after 2/26. **Special 1 year USCF dues**with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Young Adult \$22, Scholastic \$15. Mailed or paid at site, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Trophies** to top 10 players & top 7 teams each section, top 2 unrated in U1200, U900, U800, U600 & U400, and top 2 each U1900, U1700 (HS), U1600, U1400 (HS U1800), U1000, U800, U600 (HS U1200), U1800, U1600, U1400 (JHS), U1400, U1200, U1000 (MS U1600), U700, U500, U300 (MS U900), U1700, U1500 (Elem), U1200, U1000 (K-6 U1400), U800, U700 (K-6 U1000), U500, U400, U300 (Elem U600), U1400, U1200, U1000 (Primary), U600, U500, U400, U300 (Primary U800), U800, U600, U400 (K-1), U300, U200 (K-1 U400). Speed playoff if perfect score tie. **Free entry** to NY State Championship, Labor Day weekend 2019 (Albany), to top player each section, if not already qualified for free entry from another event. **Mixed doubles prizes**(chess sets) for three HS sections combined; no extra fee; enter at Marriott by Sat 2 pm. **Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2, 5, Sun 9, 12, 3. **Awards** 5:30 pm. **Half point byes** OK all, limit 2, must commit before rd. 2. **HR:** \$143-143 at Hilton, two nights minimum, 888-999-4711, 518-584-4000, or use link at chesstour.com. Backup hotel: Courtyard by Marriott, two nights minimum, \$135-135, 866-210-9325 or use link at chesstour.com. 7 days notice required to cancel room reservations at Hilton; first night at Courtyard is nonre-fundable, 48 hours notice required to cancel other nights. Free parking at both. Each is likely to sell out about 3 months before the tournament, but may again have availability in the final week before the event due to late cancellations. For backup hotels see chesstour.com. **Special car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633. **Online entry:** www.chessaction.com. **Mail entry:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Include name, rating, USCF ID, USCF expiration (non-members include dues), section, school, grade, birth date, address of each player. Checks payable to Continental Chess. **\$15 per player** service charge for refunds. **\$10 extra to switch** sections, all substitutions from advance list charged \$90. **Questions:** director@chess.us, 347-201-2269 (leave message, email is better). **Bring clock** if possible- none supplied. **Bring set & board** for HS sections; set & board supplied for other sections, but not for skittles. **March official ratings used** (except unofficial web ratings usually used if otherwise unrated). TD reserves right to assign estimated rating to players with non-USCF ratings. **Electronic devices rules:** see <http://chesstour.com/devices.htm>; players are not allowed to possess cellphones during play.

MAR. 10, NY State Scholastics Parents & Friends Tournament

4SS, G/30 d5. Saratoga Hilton & adjacent Saratoga City Center, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. **EF:** \$30; \$10 less to NY Scholastics parents, friends, coaches, alumni. Trophies to top 3. **Reg.:** Sun 9:30-10:15 am, rds. 10:30-12-1:30-3. Bring set, board, clock if possible- none supplied.

MAR. 10, Marshall Rated Beginner (3 Rounds)

3-SS, G/25 d5. Only open to players without a rating or rated U1200. (\$225 b/25): \$150-75. **EF:** \$15; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Begin at 9am & continue ASAP. No byes. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 10, Marshall G/50 (Open & U1600)

4-SS, G/45 d5. Two Sections: **Open:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U2000: \$75. **U1600:** (\$325 b/25): \$150-100; U1400: \$75. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 12-2-4-6pm. Max one bye; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 14, 21, 28, APR. 4, 11, 18, Marshall Thursday Open

6-SS, G/90 +30. (\$600 b/25): \$250-150-\$75; U1900: \$125. **EF:** \$40; Non- MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7pm each Thurs. Max two byes; request by Rd. 4. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 15, Marshall Friday Quads

3-RR, G/25 d5. Registration ends at 6:30pm sharp. \$50 prize to each winner. **EF:** \$20; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **GMs Free.** **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30pm. No byes allowed; \$25 Forfeit fee charged for dropping out before the completion of the tournament. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 15-17, Marshall Monthly U2400

5-SS, G/90 +30. Open to players rated below 2400 USCF. **\$1,000 GTD:** \$500-200; U2100: \$150; U1800: \$150. **EF:** \$50; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) **Rds.:** Fri.

7pm, Sat. & Sun. 12:30 & 5:30pm. Max two byes; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

MAR. 16-17, 41st Annual Marchand Open
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 20, Marshall Thursday Action
4-SS, G/25 d5. (\$400 b/25): \$150-75; U2200, U1900: \$75; Biggest upset: \$25. **EF:** \$25; Non-MCC Mbr: Additional \$25 Mbr fee. (\$5 late fee: in-person reg hour before Rd. 1.) GMs Free. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45pm. Max one bye, for Rd. 1 or 4 only; request at entry. **Register Online:** www.marshallchessclub.org/register.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)
See Grand Prix.

APR. 20, Foxwoods Blitz (BLZ) (CT)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, World Open Daily 2 pm Blitz (BLZ) (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)
See Grand Prix.

NORTH CAROLINA

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Classes (All Ages)" Championships (GA)
See Georgia.

JAN. 25-27, Land of the Sky XXXII
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)
See Nationals.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress (GA)
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial (GA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

OHIO

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 12, Toledo January Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd. 1 G/75 d5, Rnds. 2-4 G/85 d5. University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Cafe, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into multiple sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 1/10, \$25 at site. **Reg.:** 9-10 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 1, 4, & 7. **Prizes:** \$450 b/25, \$100-50, Class prizes TBD based on split. **Ent:** jagz47@hotmail.com. 7031 Willowycck Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. 419-367-9450.

JAN. 25-27 OR 26-27, 2019 Cardinal Open (Open Section FIDE Rated)
See Grand Prix.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 9, Toledo February Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd. 1-4 G/75 d5. University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Cafe, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo,

OH 43614. Can split into multiple sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 2/7, \$25 at site. **Reg.:** 9-10 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 1, 4, & 7. **Prizes:** \$450 b/25, \$100-50, Class prizes TBD based on split. **Ent:** jagz47@hotmail.com. 7031 Willowycck Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. 419-367-9450.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

FEB. 23-24, 2019 Ohio State Girls Championship 4SS, 4 Sections: Championship, G/90 +30, rds. Sat 11 & 4, Sun 9 & 2; limited to female scholastic players who reside or attend school in Ohio. U1000, U600, K-3 U300, G/30 d5, all rds Sat at 11, 12:30, then ASAP; open to female scholastic players from all states. **Entry fee:** \$35 through Feb. 17, then \$40. No onsite entry. **Prizes:** Trophies to all scoring 3.0+. Medals to all. Trophies to top 3 teams in each section. **Venue:** Sat Princeton High School, 100 Viking Way (Chester Road), Cincinnati, OH 45246; Sun (Championship only) Hyatt Place, 11345 Chester Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45246, HR \$105. **Complete information and entry form at** www.chesscincinnati.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

MAR. 9, Toledo March Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd. 1-4 G/75 d5. University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Cafe, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into multiple sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 3/7, \$25 at site. **Reg.:** 9-10 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 1, 4, & 7. **Prizes:** \$450 b/25, \$100-50, Class prizes TBD based on split. **Ent:** jagz47@hotmail.com. 7031 Willowycck Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. 419-367-9450.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 29-31 OR 30-31, 56th Cincinnati Open
See Grand Prix.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

OKLAHOMA

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships (TX)
See Grand Prix.

FOXWOODS returns after 5 years!

Open at Foxwoods, April 17-21, 18-21 or 19-21, Easter weekend

\$100,000 projected prizes, \$75,000 minimum, GM & IM norms possible!

Open Section: 9 rounds, Apr 17-21, 40/2, SD/30 d10.

Other sections: 7 rounds, Apr 18-21, 40/2, SD/30 d10 (3-day option, Apr 19-21, rds 1-2 G/60 d10), Foxwoods Resort Casino, in the woods of Southeast Connecticut. Free parking.

7 sections. Prizes \$100,000 based on 650 entries (seniors, re-entries, GMs, IMs, WGMs, foreign FIDE & U1100 Section count half), else proportional; minimum 75% each prize) guaranteed.

Open: \$10000-5000-2500-1500-1000-700-600-500-400-400, clear or tie-break 1st \$200 bonus, top FIDE 2250-2399 \$3000-1500, top FIDE U2250/Unr \$3000-1500. FIDE rated, 200 GPP.

U2200/Unr: \$5000-3000-1600-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300.

U2000/Unr: \$5000-3000-1600-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300, unrated limit \$2000.

U1800: \$5000-3000-1600-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300.

U1600: \$4000-2000-1300-900-600-500-400-400-300-300. .

U1400: \$3000-1800-1000-800-600-500-400-400-300-300.

U1100/Unr: \$1500-800-600-500-400-300-300-200-200-200, unr limit \$400.

Mixed doubles: \$1200-800-600-400-200; see TLA or chesstour.com.

FIDE ratings used in Open, Apr official USCF in others. Unofficial ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

If under 26 games rated as of April 2019 official, limit \$800 U1100, \$1500 U1400, \$2500 U1600 or U1800.

If any post-event rating posted 4/15/18-4/15/19 was more than 30 pts over section maximum, prize limit \$1500.

Online entry fee: \$208 at chessaction.com by 2/11, \$228 by 4/16, \$250 at site, or online until 2 hrs before rd 1.

Open Section: \$100 more to US players not USCF or FIDE 2200/over. GMs, foreign IMs/WGMs \$180 less; \$200 from prize. US IMs/WGMs & FIDE foreign \$100 less; \$100 from prize.

Titled player minimum prizes: see Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Special entry fee: Senior 65/over in U1400 to U2200, \$100 less. Online EF \$4 less to CSCA members. Re-entry \$100; not available in Open Section.

No checks at site; credit cards OK. **Special USCF dues:** see chesstour.com or TLA. USCF mem. required.

5-day reg. ends 4/17 6 pm, rds Wed 7 pm, Thu 12 & 7, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15.

4-day reg. ends 4/18 6 pm, rds. Thu 7, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15.

3-day reg. ends 4/19 10 am, rds. Fri 11, 2:30 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15.

Half-point byes: OK all, limit 4 (limit 2 in last 4 rds). Open must commit before rd 3, others before rd 4.

Bring set, board, clock if possible-none supplied.

Special room rates: Grand Pequot Tower (closest, very luxurious): Fri/Sat \$205, others \$149. Fox Tower (5-7 minute walk in connected building): Fri/Sat \$175, others \$119. Two Trees Inn (15-20 minute walk, free shuttle): Fri/Sat \$145, others \$99. All: \$4.95 resort fee, includes wired internet, fitness center, pool, spa, in room coffee, etc.

Car rental: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633.

Blitz tournament 4/20 10:30 pm.

Entry: chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham NY 10803. \$15 charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

OREGON

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

PENNSYLVANIA

Chaturanga Chess Club

Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Hatboro, PA. Visit www.chaturangachessclub.org/ or email chaturanga@verizon.net.

North Penn Chess Club

Main & Richardson, Lansdale, PA. See www.northpennchessclub.org for schedules & info or 215-699-8418.

JAN. 12-13, Dewey Beach Open (DE)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, Chesapeake Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 18-21, 19-21 OR 20-21, 51st annual Liberty Bell Open

See Grand Prix.

JAN. 27, PCL January Quick Quads (QC)

3RR, G/15 d3. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **EF:** \$10, \$7 Jrs. \$20 to 1st/quad. **Reg.:** 11-11:15am. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286. W.

JAN. 31, Chaturanga Winter Quick Chess (QC)

3-RR or SS, G/19 +10. Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church, 151 W. County Line Rd., Hatboro 19040. **Prizes:** Quads: First place \$20; Swiss: First place 50% of total EF, second place 25%. **EF:** Chaturanga CC members \$7, non-members \$10. **Reg.:** 7:20-7:40pm. **Rds.:** 7:45-8:45-9:45pm. **Byes:** limit 1, any round, request last-round bye before Round 2 starts. **Ent/Info:** Stan Ward, text (215) 285-2593, stanwc21@gmail.com. W.

FEB. 2, W. Chester 1st Sat Quads

Our 30th year! 3RR, Game/80 d5. 2nd Presbyterian Church, 114 S. Walnut St., West Chester, PA. **EF:** \$20; \$40, \$50 for 3-0. **Reg.:** 9am. **Rds.:** 9:40, 1:00, 4:00. **Info:** WCCC1975@gmail.com

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, Baltimore Open (MD)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 9, MasterMinds CC Swiss/Quads

Esperanza Academy, 421 W. Bristol St., Phila., PA 19140. **Quads:** 3RR, G/85 d5. **EF:** \$30 cash; winner \$100. **Reg.** ends 9AM. **Rds.:** 9:30, 1, 4. **Scholastic:** 4SS K-12 Open, K-8 U1100, K-6 U800, K-3 U500 G/40 d5, EF \$10 rec'd by Thurs. before, \$25 on site. **Reg.** ends 9AM. Rd. 1 10AM then asap. **Mail Ent:** payable to MasterMinds CC, 36 E. Hortter St., Philadelphia, PA 19119. **Info:** mastermindschess.org or brad@mastermindschess.org.

FEB. 9, 1st Annual NE Regional Women & Girls Championship \$1050 RBO

Open-4SS, G/60 d5; **U1000 Schol-5SS**, G/30 d5. College Hill Moravian Church, 72 W. Laurel St., Bethlehem, PA. **2 Sections: Open:** (\$1050 b/40 entries) \$350-250-150, U1900-U1700-U1500-U1300-\$75ea, **U1000**

Trophies:1st, 2nd, 3rd- U800 1st, 2nd, 3rd- U600, Unr, **EF:** \$30 by 2/4, \$40 CASH on site, WGM/IM free; \$30 from prize. **Reg.:** Ends 8:45a. **Rds.:** Open 9, 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, **Scholastic U1000: 9, 10:30, 12, 2, 3:30.** **Info:**www.lehighvalleychessclub.org, 484-866-3045. **Checks payable to:** Bruce Davis,1208 Linden St., Fl1, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

FEB. 10, PCL February Quick Quads (QC)

3RR, G/15 d3. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **EF:** \$10, \$7 Jrs. \$20 to 1st/quad. **Reg.:** 11-11:15am. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286. W.

FEB. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)

See Maryland.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 23, 2019 PA State Game/75 Championship

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 1, 2019 PA Quick Chess Championship (QC)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 2-3, 2019 Ira Lee Riddle Memorial PA State Championship & PA Collegiate Championship

See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

MAR. 2-3, 2019 PA State Scholastic Championship

5SS. 261 Trophies!! (191 Individual & 70 Team). Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Ctr., 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg PA 17235. 11 sections (Sat & Sun 3/2 & 3 unless indicated): **EF:** K-3 Open: (Sat 3/2 only) \$30. K-6 U500: (Sat 3/2 only) \$26. K-6 U800: (Sat 3/2 only) \$27. K-9 U600: (Sun 3/3 only) \$26.50. K-9 U1100: (Sun 3/3 only) \$27.50. K-6 Open: \$31. K-8 Open: \$32. 7-12 U1000 & 7-12 Unrated: \$28. 7-12 U1300: \$29. K-12 Open: \$33. Cash Scholarships: K-12 Open: 1st \$2500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-8 Open: 1st \$1500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-6 Open: 1st \$1000, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-3 Open: 1st \$500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. **All:** EFs if rec'd by 2/16, \$10 more rec'd 2/17-2/23, \$20 more after 2/23. Feb 2019 ratings used. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **Reg.:** Fri 3/1 6-10 pm, Sat 3/2 10-11 am, Saturday entries get 1/2-bye. \$5 charge for changes/refunds after 2/16. **Rds.:** (Sat 3/2 1-day sections): G/40d5; 10-Noon-2-4-6; (Sun 3/3 1-day sections): G/40d5; 9-10:45-12:30-2:15-4; (2-day sections): G/90 d5; 10-2-5:30, 9-1. **Bughouse:** Reg on-site only until Sat 3/2 8:30pm. Rds begin Sat 3/2 8:45pm. **EF:** \$20/team. **HR:** Mention "Chess Tourney": 717-334-8121 \$89 by 1/31. **Info:** 412-908-0286 martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, pscfchess.org/pascholarshipchamp/. Ent: PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223.

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)

See New York.

MAR. 9-10, Delaware State Open Chess Championship (DE)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class (MA)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open

See Grand Prix.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship

6SS, G/60 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates). Open to all born after 7/2/06. In 4 sections. **Open Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 1600/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-12/31/19 to 1st. **Under 1400 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 1200/Unr, free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-10/31/19 to 1st. **Under 1000 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 800/Unr, free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-9/30/19 to 1st. **Under 600 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 400, top 2 Unrated; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-9/30/19 to 1st. **EF:** \$48 online at chessaction.com by 6/30, \$52 mailed by 6/15, \$60 at site. **Late reg.** 7/1 to 10 am, rds. Mon 11-2-5, Tue 10-1-4. Up to 2 half point byes allowed, must commit before rd. 3. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: chess-tour.com, chesstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women's Championship

See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur

5SS, G/90 d10. Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open for location, rates, parking).Open to all born before 7/2/69 and rated under 2210 or unrated. Prizes \$3000 based on 45 entries, \$2000 (2/3 each prize) min. guarantee. In 2 sections. **Under 2210/Unr:** \$600-300-200, top U2010/Unr \$320-160. **Under 1810/Unr:** \$500-250-130, top U1610 (no unr) \$280-140, top U1410 (no unr) \$120, unr limit \$200. **EF:** \$88 online at chessaction.com by 6/28, \$93 mailed by 6/15, \$100 at site, or online until 2 hours before rd. 1. **Reg.** ends 9 am 7/1, **rds.** Mon 10, 2 & 6, Tue 10 & 2. **Half point byes** OK all rounds, limit 2 byes, must commit before rd. 3. **Special USCF dues:** see World Open. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Entries posted at chessaction.com (click "entry list" after entering).

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open

See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship

See Grand Prix.

JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, World Open Daily 2 pm Blitz (BLZ)

4 separate tournaments at Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (see World Open). Each is a 4-SS, double round (8 games), G/5 d0, with prizes \$300 guaranteed: \$100-50, U2100 \$60, U1800 \$50, U1500/Unr \$40. **EF:** \$20, at site only, no checks. **Reg.** ends 1:45 pm, rds. 2, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45. One pair of 1/2 pt byes available, must commit before rd. 2. Blitz rated (will not affect regular ratings), but higher of regular or blitz used for pairings & prizes. \$10 service charge for refunds.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship

See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ)

See Grand Prix.

RHODE ISLAND

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 17-21, 18-21 OR 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods (CT)

See Grand Prix.

SOUTH CAROLINA

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Classes (All Ages)" Championships (GA)

See Georgia.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)

See Nationals.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress (GA)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial (GA)

See Grand Prix.

TENNESSEE

JAN. 19-20, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Classes (All Ages)" Championships (GA)

See Georgia.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

JAN. 19-20, Memphis Candidates 2019

Site: IBEW, 1870 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104; 5SS, G/90; +30. **Sections:** Open and Under 1500. **Entry Fee with MCC Dues:** \$20 by 01/12 \$30 at door. **On-site registration 01/19:** 7:30am-9:45am. **Rounds:** Sat 10-1:15-6:30; Sun 9:30-2:30. Top 5 Open players qualify for City Championship with Alexander King. Top 6 U1500 qualify for Memphis Amateur Championship. All players who play in Memphis Candidates

\$100,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND NATIONAL OPEN

JUNE 12-16 (OPEN ONLY), 13-16, 14-16, OR 15-16

Now 7 Rounds (Open 9) ◦ 8 Sections ◦ Top 2 FIDE Rated

Winner is a US Chess National Champion and receives a replica of the Edmondson Cup

Open Section 9 Rounds in 5 days with FIDE Norms Possible

Mixed Doubles Prizes for Best Male/Female Combined Scores

Beginners Section with 3 Schedules of 6 Rounds Each Day at G/30 +5

\$3,500 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND

U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY JUNE 11-12

5 Round Swiss ◦ US Chess & FIDE Rated

Winner is a US Chess National Champion and receives the Women's Cup



INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

JUNE 11-16, 2019

www.VegasChessFestival.com

2019 get free entry into the 2019 Memphis Reserve Open. All 3 events will take place March 2019! **Use PayPal to join:** <http://memphischess-club.homestead.com/candidates2019.html>, gpylant@gmail.com

FEB. 9-10, Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (AL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 15-17 OR 16-17, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress (GA)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships (FL)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 15-17 OR 16-17, 23rd Annual Boris Kogan Memorial (GA)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

TEXAS

FEB. 1-3 OR 2-3, Central Florida 2019 Winter Open (FL)

See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - South (FL)

See Nationals.

FEB. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 OR 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships

See Grand Prix.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

MAR. 8-10, 2019 Texas State Scholastic Chess Championships (Super States)

7SS, **Houston Marriott Westchase, 2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston, TX 77042.** \$99, \$99, \$99, \$99 rate includes American Breakfast Buffet, Call 1-800-452-5110 to make reservations **mention group code DCC** or register online thru link on web page. Reserve by 2/27/2019 or rate may not be honored. Note that the rate can sell out, so make reservations early. Tournament is open to any Kindergarten-12th grade student living in Texas or going to school in Texas. Note that if a student has played in another state's closed championship, they may not play in this tournament. Four championships: TX Primary Scholastic Championships; TX Elementary Scholastic Championships; TX Middle School Scholastic Championships; TX High School Scholastic Championships. EF: \$44 by 2/4; \$55 by 2/28; \$73 after 3/1 or on site. On Site Registration: Friday, 5:30-6:15pm, Saturday, 8-8:30am. Saturday registrants will receive a 1st Rd. 1/2-pt. bye. Two 1/2-pt. byes allowed as long as one of the

byes is for round 1, if requested by the end of Rd. 2. Sections: K-1 Championship, Primary (K-3) Championship, Primary JV (K-3 w/Ratings Under 600), Elementary (K-5/6) Championship, Elementary JV (K-5/6 Under 800), Elementary Novice (K-5/6 Under 500), Middle School (6-8/9) Championship, MS JV (6-8/9 Under 900), MS Novice (6-8/9 Under 600), High School (9-12) Championship, HS JV (9-12 Under 1000). See Article IX, Section 1E, TCA Bylaws for each section's eligibility requirement, <https://texaschess.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/TCA-Bylaws-30-Aug-2015.pdf>. Note that 2019 February Supplement will be used. Note new for this year: John W. Griffin Memorial Chess Scholarship award sponsored by Belleville Capital Management. They will present certificates to the winner of the High School Championship (\$1000), Middle School Championship (\$500) and Elementary Championship (\$100). The certificate is to be used for secondary education at an accredited institution at some point in the future. We will redeem the certificate and pay directly to the institution. It is the sponsor's expectation to make this scholarship a yearly annual award in which a player may win more than once. Trophies for top 20 individuals and top 15 teams in each section plus participation medals for all, and plus Score Awards for players scoring 4 or more points that do not win an individual trophy. Top 5 Grand Champion trophies. The 3 Primary sections will be merged and using the top 15 players, a grand champion will be crowned. This will also be done for the 3 Elementary sections and the 3 Middle School Sections. For the High School the two sections will be merged and the top 10 players will be used to determine the grand champions. Note that trophies will not be given out in advance and must be picked up at awards ceremony. Please make arrangements for picking up trophies at award ceremony or to get trophy shipped. Schedule: Round times vary depending on the Section. For round times check website. Time controls: All High School and Middle School Championship Sections: Rds. 1 G/45 d5; Rounds 2-4 G/60 d5, Rds. 5-7 G/75 d5. All Elementary and Primary and K-1 sections as well as MS JV and MS Novice: rds. 1-4 G/45 d5, rds. 5-7 G/60 d5. For round times see: www.dallaschess.com/2019%20Texas%20Scholastic/index.htm. Side Events: See website for side events. Side event registration on site only. All registrations (except Side events) available on line: see www.dallaschess.com/2019%20Texas%20Scholastic/index.htm and you can download flyers and entry forms. Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club. Mail entries to Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-47195. For tournament info, visit our website or contact Barbara Swafford, info@dallaschess.com or 214-632-9000. Refunds will be given only up to 3/1 with a \$10 surcharge for withdrawing, after 3/6 there will be no refunds. There will be no substitution of team members. There will be a \$10 change fee for changes after 3/1. There will be a \$5 surcharge per player for phone registrations USCF membership is required. Proof of membership is required or player must join/renew their memberships. No registration/changes/or withdrawals by phone or email after 3/6/19 as we are driving to the site; after that date you must make changes at site (Houston WestChase). W.

MAR. 22-24 OR 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open (MO)

See Grand Prix.

APR. 26-28, 2019 National Junior High School (K-9) Championship

See Nationals.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)

See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)

See Grand Prix.

UTAH

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women's Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)

See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)

See Nevada.

VERMONT

FEB. 17, Sunday Quick Chess in Middlebury (QC)

5SS, G/25 d3. Recreation Center, 154 Creek Rd., Middlebury, VT 05753. Two sections. **Open:** \$\$ based on 20 paid entries: 210-140, U2050 130, U1800 120. **Under 1550:** \$\$ based on 16 paid entries: 120-80, U1300 75, U1050 50, U800 25. **Both:** EF \$25 if rec'd by Feb 15 or \$32 later; free to Unr. **Reg.** 9:15-10:05 a.m., **Rds.** 10:30-11:50-1:40-3-4:20. H-bye OK. **Ent:** Parker "Monty" Montgomery, PO Box 831, Middlebury, VT 05753-0831; vermonty64@earthlink.net, 802-349-7739.

FEB. 23, 6th Queen City Tornado (NH)

See Grand Prix.

MAR. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)

See New York.

10th annual Southwest Class Championships

Feb 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 or 17-18 (Presidents weekend), Fort Worth, Texas

\$33,000 guaranteed prizes, GM & IM norms possible!

Master Section: 9 rounds, Feb 14-18. **Expert, Class A:** 7 rounds, Feb 15-18 or 16-18. **B, C, D or E:** 7 rounds, Feb 15-18, 16-18 or 17-18. **All merge,** play for same prizes. **Time control** 40/2, SD/30 d10 (3-day rds 1-2 G/60 d10, 2-day rds 1-4 G/30 d10).

DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Blvd, Fort Worth TX 76155, Free parking, free airport shuttle.

7 sections; rated players may play up one section. Unr may enter A-E.

Master (2200/up): \$3000-2000-1200-800-600, clear/tiebreak 1st \$200, top FIDE U2300/Unr \$1800-900. FIDE ratings used, 200 GPP.

Expert (2000-2199), **Class A** (1800-1999), **Class B** (1600-1799): each \$2000-1000-500-300-200.

Class C (1400-1599), \$1700-900-500-300-200.

Class D (1200-1399), **Class E** (Under 1200): \$800-400-300-200-100.

Unrated prize limit: E \$100, D \$200, C \$300, B \$400, A \$600.

Mixed doubles (see TLA): \$1000-600-400. Master Section, rds 1-7 only.

Master Section entry fee: \$228 at chessaction.com by 2/13, \$250 at site. GM minimums, titled/foreign entry, mail entry: see TLA or chesstour.com.

Expert to C entry fee: \$158 at chessaction.com by 2/13, \$180 at site, or online to 2 hours before rd 1.

Class D or E sections: All fees \$80 less than top 5 sections.

Re-entry (except Master): \$60.

No checks at site, credit cards OK.

Special USCF dues with magazine if paid with entry: see chesstour.com or TLA. US Chess membership required.

Cellphone possession during play not allowed (in bag near table OK).

5-day schedule: Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, Thu 7, Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15.

4-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, Rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15.

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sun 9 am, rds. Sun 10, 12, 2, 3:45 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15.

Half point byes OK all, limit 2; Master must commit before rd 3, others before rd 4.

All: Bring clock, set, board if possible- none supplied. Unofficial rating usually used if otherwise unr.

Hotel rates: \$103-103, 817-358-1700 or use link at chesstour.com, reserve by 1/29 or rate may increase.

Entry: chessaction.com or Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds.

Questions: Director@Chess.US, www.chesstour.com, 347-201-2269.

Entries posted at chessaction.com (online entries posted instantly).

Blitz tournament Sun. 10:30 pm.

APR. 5-7 OR 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships (MA)
See Grand Prix.

VIRGINIA

JAN. 18-21 OR 19-21, Chesapeake Open (MD)
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 8-10 OR 9-10, Baltimore Open (MD)
See Grand Prix.

FEB. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)
See Maryland.

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 13th annual Philadelphia International (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 28-30 OR 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, 8th annual World Open Women’s Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 1-2, 9th annual World Open Senior Amateur (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 1-2, World Open Warmup (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2, 7th annual World Open Action Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 3, 8th annual World Open Game/7 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, World Open Daily 2 pm Blitz (BLZ) (PA)
See Pennsylvania.

JULY 6, World Open G/10 Championship (PA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 7, World Open Blitz Championship (BLZ) (PA)
See Grand Prix.

WASHINGTON

FEB. 23-24, 27th Dave Collyer Memorial
See Grand Prix.

MAR. 1-3 OR 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

JUNE 11-12, 2019 U.S. Women’s Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16, 2019 National Open (NV)
See Nationals.

JUNE 15-16, International Youth Championship (NV)
See Nevada.

WEST VIRGINIA

FEB. 22-24 OR 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open (VA)
See Grand Prix.

JULY 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 OR 5-7, 47th Annual World Open (PA)
See Grand Prix.

WISCONSIN

A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
JAN. 26-27, 54th Northeastern Open
Hilton Garden Inn, 1355 W. 20th St., Oshkosh, WI 54901. **HR:** \$90 920-966-1300 (Mention Chess-Reserve Early). In 3 Sections, **Open:** 5SS, 35/90,

SD/60 d5, EF: \$40 by 1/22; \$47 at site. \$\$b/40: \$250-175. 1900-\$135, 1800-\$125, 1700-\$115, 1600-\$105, U1600-\$95. Rds.: 10-2:30-7:30;10-3. **Reserve (U1500):** 5SS, 35/90, SD/60 d5, Open to U1500. EF: \$25 by 1/22; \$32 on site. \$\$b/20: \$70-50. 1200: \$40; U1200-\$40. Rds.: 10-2:30-7:30;10-3. **Novice (U1000):**6SS, G/60 d5, Open to U1000. EF: \$15 by 1/22; \$22 at site. Prizes: Trophies to 1st-5th. Rds.: 10-1-3:30-6:30; 10-1. **ALL: Reg:** 1/26 - 8:45-9:30 am. One 1/2-point bye any Rd. Full-pt bye to 2100+ in Rd.1 if requested before Late Reg ends. Checks payable to Mike Nietman. **ENT:** Mike Nietman-Organizer, 2 Boca Grande Way, Madison, WI 53719, 608-467-8510 (before 1/25). **INFO:** mike.nietman@charter.net. Online Registration at https://onlineregistration.cc. W.

A Heritage Event!
MAR. 9, Waukesha Memorial (38th Annual)
A Wisconsin Tour Event! 4SS. G/60 d5. USCF rated (Dual rated). To obtain USCF membership, see uschess.org. Country Inn & Suites, 1250 S. Moorland RD., Brookfield, WI (1-262-782-1400) Exit 301(AB) from I-94. \$\$Non-monetary; traveling trophy to First, books for class winners. Open to all. **EF:** \$15 by 3/08 (\$20 at site). **Reg.:** 8:00-9:15; 1/2 point bye if registered after 9:15; groups of 4 or more must pre-register; pre-registrants check in by 9:30 to assure pairing. **Rds.:** 10:00; 1:00; 3:30; 6:00. No state memb. req’d. OSA. Mail entries to Waukesha CC, 1911 Stardust DR., Waukesha, WI 53186. Phone Info: Jim Nickell (262) 544-6266. Online info: jnickell@wi.rr.com

MAR. 9, Rated Beginners Open (RBO)
4SS, G/60 d5. Dual rated. USCF rated; for USCF membership see uschess.org. Country Inn & Suites, 1250 S. Moorland RD., Brookfield, WI (1-262-782-1400); Exit 301 (AB) from I-94. Open to players rated under 1200 or unrated. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 3, book prizes for class winners. **EF:** \$15 by 3/08 (\$20 at site). **Reg.:** 8:00-9:15, 1/2 point bye if registered after 9:15; groups of 4 or more must pre-register; pre-registrants check in by 9:30 to assure pairing. **Rds.:**10:00; 1:00; 3:30; 6:00. Mail entries to Waukesha CC, 1911 Stardust DR., Waukesha, WI 53186. Phone Info: Jim Nickell (262) 544-6266. Online info: jnickell@wi.rr.com.

MAY 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 OR 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open (IL)
See Grand Prix.

Membership Appreciation Program (MAP)

The MAP program continues in 2018. See details at *main.uschess.org/go/MAP*. Top standings will appear every two months in *Chess Life*.

Overall Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	1104
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	755
THE BERKELEY CHESS SCHOOL	CA	289
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	249
PARKWAY CHESS	TX	221
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	176
NEW YORK CITY CHESS INC	NY	169
WESTERN PA YOUTH CHESS CLUB	PA	158
CHESS CLUB AND SCHOLASTIC CTR	MO	148
BEYOND CHESS	CA	139
DALLAS CHESS CLUB	TX	139

Small State Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL CC	ME	77
MAINE ASSOC OF CHESS COACHES	ME	73
JOHN BAPST MHS CHESS CLUB	ME	55
NEW MEXICO SCHOL CHESS ORG	NM	32
TOURNAMENT IN A BOX	NH	23
ENDGAME CHESS	NM	21
WVSCA	WV	16
METRO AREA CHESS	DC	14
KNIGHTS CHESS CLUB	NH	11
RELYEA CHESS	NH	9

State Chapter Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
MARYLAND CHESS ASSOCIATION	MD	279
MICHIGAN CHESS ASSOCIATION	MI	174
WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION	WA	138
MINNESOTA ST CHESS ASSN	MN	121
PENNSYLVANIA ST CHESS FED	PA	98
NEVADA CHESS INC	NV	65
NEW JERSEY ST CHESS FED	NJ	46
MASSACHUSETTS CHESS ASSOC	MA	39
SOUTH DAKOTA CHESS ASSN	SD	30
IOWA STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION	IA	19

Adult Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	862
CHESS CLUB AND SCHOLASTIC CTR	MO	140
SAN DIEGO CHESS CLUB	CA	111
MARSHALL CHESS CLUB	NY	100
DALLAS CHESS CLUB	TX	77
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	74
ROCHESTER CHESS CENTER	NY	66
LOS ANGELES CHESS CLUB	CA	64
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	60
LAS VEGAS CHESS CENTER	NV	56

Scholastic and Youth Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	681
THE BERKELEY CHESS SCHOOL	CA	256
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	242
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	210
PARKWAY CHESS	TX	199
NEW YORK CITY CHESS INC	NY	152
WESTERN PA YOUTH CHESS CLUB	PA	152
BEYOND CHESS	CA	135
EN PASSANT CHESS CLUB	TX	117
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	116

Member Standings

Name	State	Count
NAVARRO, DANIEL A	TX	74
TUSING, TIMOTHY A	FL	44
BRACKENRIDGE, KEITH	OH	34
AGHAJANYAN, ARTUR	CA	26
CAMPBELL, TIM V	MO	25
STALLINGS, JAY	CA	24
LUNA, GILBERTO, II	FL	21
WOLF, TODD W	ND	21
MAXWELL, JONATHAN	VA	18
BRAUNLICH, THOMAS D	OK	14

PCT Gain Standings

State	Dec17	Sep18	PCT	State	Dec17	Sep18	PCT	State	Dec17	Sep18	PCT	State	Dec17	Sep18	PCT
AR	280	332	18.6	MS	382	416	8.9	MA	1975	2050	3.8	HI	157	161	2.5
MT	89	100	12.4	MIL	15	16	6.7	ME	476	491	3.2				
DC	335	370	10.4	OK	328	342	4.3	IA	721	741	2.8				

Classifieds

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Solutions

PAGE 15 / RUSSIAN HIGHER LEAGUE

PROBLEM I. 35. h5+! Kxh5 36. Qf5+ Bg5 37. g4+ Kh4 38. Bf2 mate. **PROBLEM II. 23. Qg5! Rf7 24. Bxf6+!** Rxf6 25. Qg7 mate or 24. ... Bxf6 25. Qxc5. **PROBLEM III. 33. ... Ra1+!** 34. Qxa1 Qf3+ 35. Kg1 Bf2+ 36. Kf1 Bg3+ and mates. **PROBLEM IV. 32. Rd5!** threatens Rxh5+, e.g. 32. ... Rh7 33. Qxh7+! Kxh7 34. Rxh5 mate or **32. ... Ne5 33. Rxe5! dxe5 34. Qxh5+ Rh7 35. Qxe5+** and mates. **PROBLEM V. 25. Bf4!** threatens to mate after 26. Qxh7+ or 26. Bxe5 Rxe5 27. Qd7. After **25. ... Bg7** White won with **26. Be5!**, e.g. 26. ... Rxe5 27. Qd7 or **26. ... Bxe5 27. Qxh7+ Kf8 28. Qh6+ Ke8 29. Qxg6+**. **PROBLEM VI. 24. ... Rxa3!** threatens 25. ... Ra1 mate as well as 25. ... Nb3+. After **25. Nxa3 Nb3+ 26. Kc2 Nxd4+** White avoided 27. Kd3 Nd1! and allowed **27. Kxc3 Qb3+! 28. Kxd4 c5** mate!

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PROBLEM I. Mating net: It is mate in two: **1. ... Rxe1+ 2. Rxe1 Qxd3** mate. **PROBLEM II. Mating net:** Black wins with **1. ... Qf2** mate. **PROBLEM III. Mating net:** Black mates by **1. ... Nf2+ 2. Kc2 Qd3** mate. **PROBLEM IV. Mating net:** Black mates in two: **1. ... Rxa2+ 2. Kxa2 Qa4** mate. **PROBLEM V. Mating net:** Mate results from **1. ... Qh4+ 2. Kf1 Ne3+ 3. Kg1 Qg3+ 4. Kh1 Qg2** mate. **PROBLEM VI. Mating net:** Black forces mate with **1. ... Be3**, and it's mate next move by **2. ... Qg2**.

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21-35	1400-1599
06-20	1200-1399
0-05	under 1200

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PROBLEM I. Shiqun lost on time here, and it appears that White has no way of staving off checkmate. However, a brilliant defensive resource comes to the rescue: **53. Rg1!!** This completely neutralizes Black's attacking chances, e.g: **53. ... Rxb1+ 54. Kxb1 Rd3 55. Ngxe5 Rxc3 56. Kf2**, with equality. **PROBLEM II.** The correct approach was to concentrate entirely on a furious kingside attack: **30. ... f4!!** Paving open the diagonal for Black's dark-square bishop. **31. exf4 Qh4! 32. Rf1 Qxf4** with serious pressure. In fact, White has to exercise caution to maintain the balance.

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MY BEST MOVE

Veronika Zilajeva

Winner, 2018
National Girls
Tournament of
Champions

Despite 10 years of tournament experience, I still get excited every time I play a tournament; the recently-held National Girls Tournament of Champions was no exception. From qualification day I was looking forward to my trip to Wisconsin to represent Oklahoma as a scholastic player for the last time.

As the 11th seed, I expected my toughest games to be in the second half of the tournament. The first two games went smoothly, but the following round, I got paired against my good friend WFM Sasha Konovalenko. It was a game that ended late at night as a draw. The following morning, I got paired against WIM Naomi Bashkansky with black. My victory was decisive, and thus I expected a tough opponent in round five. I got paired against WCM Marissa Li, whom I had played once before. Our previous game had ended in a draw. This time, however, I had white and was prepared to play more aggressively for a win, given the tournament circumstances.

GRÜNFIELD DEFENSE (D70)

Veronika Zilajeva (2014)

WCM Marissa Li (2066)

National Girls Tournament of Champions
(5), Middleton, WI, 07.31.2018

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. f3 d5

I anticipated that Marissa would play the Grünfeld Defense, so I decided to make the game interesting by playing the lesser known sideline 3. f3.

4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. e4 Nb6 6. Nc3 Bg7 7. Be3
O-O 8. Qd2 Nc6 9. O-O-O f5

The two main lines for Black are ... f5 and ... e5. If anything else is played, White gets some advantage.

10. e5 Nb4 11. Nh3 Be6 12. Kb1 Qd7 13. a3

This was a mistake. While the knight on b4 is uncomfortable, I should have kept attacking on the kingside.

13. ... N4d5 14. Nf4 Nxf4

Better was 14. ... Nxe3.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF SUBJECT

“As a beginning player, I could have never imagined winning a national chess competition.”

15. Bxf4 Rad8 16. Qc2 Nd5 17. Nxd5
Qxd5 18. Kc1 Rc8

Trading queens was my only option to prevent her queen from becoming active.

19. Qc5 Qa2

If Black exchanges queens, the position is about equal, but comfortable for me.



Rather than going into full defensive mode, I searched for some more active ideas and found **20. d5!** By attacking the bishop on e6 and cutting off the black queen's escape, **My Best Move** decided the game.

20. ... Bd7 21. Bc4 Qa1+

Another line that I looked at was 21. ... Qa1+ 22. Kc2 Ba4+ 23. Bb3 Bxb3+. The queen is trapped. If 23. ... Qa2 24. Bxa4 c6 25. d6 exd6 26. Rxd6, Black is still losing the queen.

22. Kc2 Ba4+ 23. Bb3, Black resigned.

Even after the bishops get traded, Black's queen cannot escape the trap. 23. ... c6 24. d6+ Bxb3+ 25. Kxb3 exd6 26. Qxd6.

As a beginner player, I could have never imagined winning a national chess competition. So to all rising female chess players—never be afraid of chasing your dreams.♠

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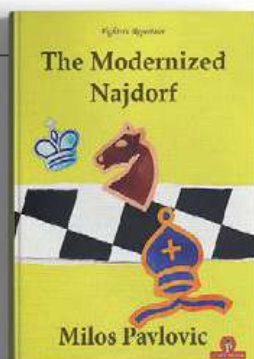
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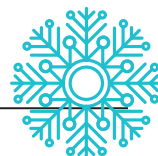


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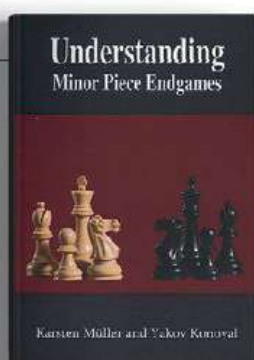


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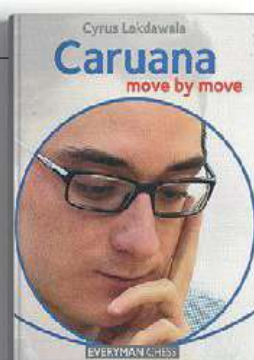
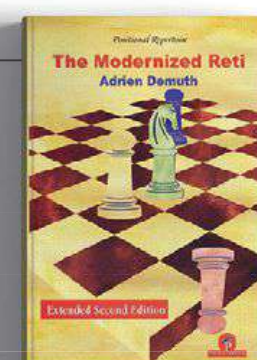
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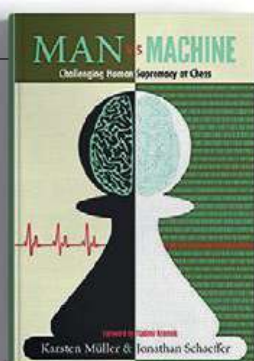
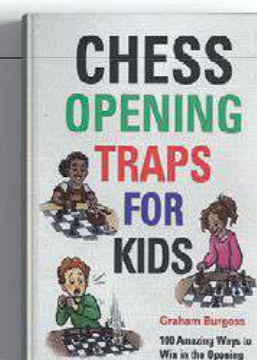


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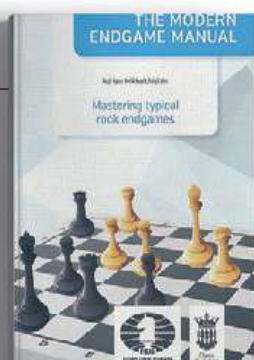
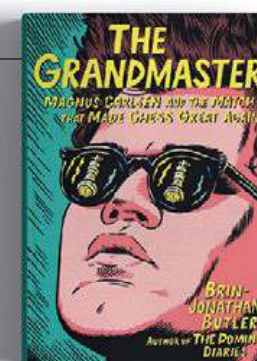
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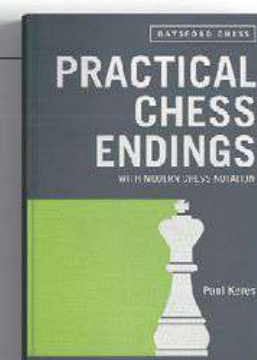


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